Volume 126 No 2 April to June 2016

Anglican Church Central Queensland

The Gazette

The Synod experience May 2016

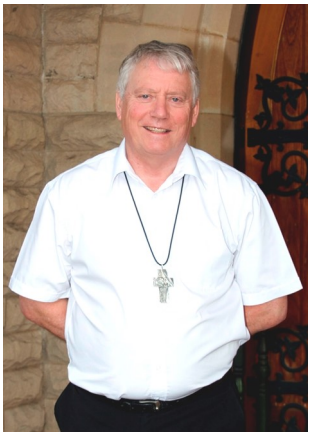
Inside this issue:

Bishop's Musings	2
Mother's Union	3
Parish roundups	4-6
Synod experiences	7
Mission to Seafarers 160	9
GFS at work in South Africa	13
Engaging with Islam	16

Our culture has changed quite severely in the last few years, in the wider community, therefore our motivation for enabling the church to grow is that God loves us and we are the people of God. This year at Synod, we were challenged to deconstruct our attitudes and assumptions about what we believe about worship, the bible, prayer and kindness we offer to others. The Bishop put to us that in an ever changing culture, we need to be the change. As a body, we discussed that we needed to further our faith ministry and worldwide views. As a church, we are given the ultimate platform to nurture people's faith walks, therefore, throughout Synod it highlighted to me that we need to be moving forward, we need to be innovative, not accept people not wanting to be apart our churches. One small country parish may not be able to make a difference, but imagine if the Anglican Diocese of Australia banded together in faith, to reach out to our current generation, addressing them on a realistic level to let them know that God doesn't care what they've done, but what they are going to do. In Matthew 5: 41 we are told that "if anyone asks you to go one mile, go two with them", therefore the main message I took away from Synod is that we should be walking

(Continued on page 3)

The Bishop's Musings



Dear Friends,

In a few weeks the clergy of the Diocese will gather for their annual conference. The theme for this year's conference is 'Sharing God's Blessing – How to renew the local church'. (The book of this title by Robin Greenwood can be ordered from the Diocesan office.)

As a consequence of reading the book and preparing for our time away, I have been reflecting on what it might mean, for us, to be a blessing in a community that is increasingly divisive and destructive.

The rise of individualism, where my rights, my opinions, my desires, are more important than others raises some interesting challenges. I note that following the recent Federal Election it has been commented that the likelihood of a hung parliament and the increase in independent and non-aligned groups is due to the rise in individualism and a reduced sense of communal good. Each person acts on what they perceive is best for themselves and not necessarily the greater good.

The Church has not been immune to this rise in individualism. Questions of faith are seen in personal and individualistic ways with little concern for the well being of the whole community. My faith, my way could well be the mantra for many Christians today. Such thinking, however, is far removed from scripture and perhaps one of the key reasons that in many places the Church is seen as largely irrelevant in people's lives.

From the calling of God's people in Exodus (Exodus 6), to Jesus' calling of disciples in the gospels (see for example John 8), and to Paul's description of the Church (1Cor 12), Christianity has been about community, groups of people bonded together for worship, for support and encouragement, and as a witness to another way. It is as witness to another way that we are most able to share God's blessing in our communities. We are called to model love and care for others, a lifestyle that values community, that seeks to serve others and not ourselves. Only then will people be able to look at us, to look at the church and say 'see how they love one another', to see 'loving God and loving others' in action.

"We are called to model love and care for others, a lifestyle that values community, that seeks to serve others and not ourselves."

With love and prayers.

+ David

Synod from another view point

Synod delegates hard at work

Well Synod is over for another year, and I for one enjoyed the fellowship that can only be experienced between fellow Christians. I felt the Synod as a whole was well organised, due to the many hours spent behind the scenes by a hard working staff. Bishop's address was well received, as were those who spoke from the various organisations within the Church were both interesting and informative, giving us an insight into the dedication of these people to others. I would have liked to have seen a little more done with the reports submitted to the Diocese as has been done in the past. And possibly with the coming together of so many Parishes it could be considered if time allowed to speak on their involvement with Church and community. As we know very little of each individual Parish they could possibly assist others with ideas for surely we are many but one in Christ.

Noel Kearney
Mt Morgan/ Wowan

Mothers' Union works at Worldwide, national and local levels

When commissioning the newly elected Trustee Board with Lynne Tembey as Worldwide President at Lambeth Palace earlier this year, Archbishop Justin Welby said he "praises God for the Mothers' Union which in so many places is an organisation that listens to the voices of weeping. Whether it's in Burundi, the Congo or South Sudan; whether it's in homes in cities where when the local football team loses there is a 50 percent increase in domestic violence; whether it is in the loneliness of weeping by people who are not suffering physically but are spiritually empty and lost; it is the Mothers' Union that exists in the vision of Mary Sumner to speak of those things that God has provided that bring hope, help and a future.... it is an extraordinary movement to support the family." This is the wonderful worldwide organisation of which we are a part.

Currently, as part of this vision, local members of Mothers' Union are writing letters to politicians and anyone else with influence to lobby for the revision of Adoption Laws to make it easier for foster parents to adopt children they foster, love and care for, only to have them returned to their birth parents where the abuse and neglect will happen all over again. Surely the needs of children should come first. If anyone would like to support this action, please contact me at jonelle@myaccess.com.au or Alice Hare at bhare@primus.com.au for details.

We will also be supporting Marriage Week11th – 17th September. Parishes will receive information closer to the time.

Noelle Frazer

Diocesan MU President

"Mothers' Union in so many places is an organisation that listens to the voices of weeping."

Synod experiences continued . . . .

(Continued from page 1)

our faith walk in the community, breaking down stereotypes, in belief that our Saviour died so we could live for him through the service of others. Blessings

by Hannah Eldridge

Synod 2016 from a clergy viewpoint

Having come from a large Diocese South of the border where there are many public servants, farmers and clergy with many ideals that are argued for at synod each year, it was very pleasant to come to Rockhampton and experience synod in a relatively small diocese with few real and pressing issues. Of course the issues are there, just as they are anywhere, but the need to debate them to a great extent seemed less urgent.

In the past Synod has been so big for me in numbers that you felt as though no one would notice if you were missing, but not in Rockhampton. I couldn't help but feel the Bishop had me sitting on the table in front of him to make sure I didn't disappear.

What were the issues for us this year?

Perhaps the most hotly contested issue was whether we would adopt an environmentally friendly and ethical policy for investment. The debate ebbed and flowed with amendments over the two days of the Synod but eventually the Synod asked Standing committee to come up with a policy that we could debate at next year's synod.

This issue is very sensitive for us as many throughout the diocese are involved in the coal mining, cattle and sheep industries, all of which are high pollutants in regards to greenhouse gas emissions. In addition, we have the Southern reaches of the Great Barrier Reef which, according to scientists, is being affected by global warming. Therefore, do we invest in greenhouse gas producing industries that employ us or not? To some degree it is an ethical dilemma that needs careful consideration and a high degree of prayer to know what God would have us do.

The way Parish contributions are levied was originally to be discussed and debated, however in

(Continued on page 7)

St. Francis Moranbah

Jesus is our greatest treasure and it is at the Cross where we will find the riches of all that God has done for us.

On Saturday 14th of May, St Francis held a scavenger treasure hunt for the little pirates and fairies of Moranbah. Children dressed as swashbucklers and sprites, with their parents, met at Town Square and followed clues leading to Lions Park where "X" marked the spot and there was treasure enough for all! Then, hungry from the quest, the families enjoyed a picnic morning tea together. Many of the young adventurers agreed that a big highlight of the treasure hunt was meeting a policeman and going through the police station.

This Family outreach event was a great opportunity to invite friends and other families. A great day had by all.

Revd Capt Stuart Haynes

Bevis and Mary Carmichael at Tanyalla

Boyne Tannum Parish

On Saturday the 16th of April, Reverend Beryl Andersen and members of the St. Mark's, Boyne Island community, gathered to celebrate Bevis Carmichael's 80th birthday. David and Jenny Wilson hosted a barbecue lunch in the grounds of the Tanyalla Conference Centre at Canoe Point, Tannum Sands. Bevis and his wife, Mary, have been active members of the Boyne Island & Tannum Sands Parish community since settling at Pacific Ranch, Tannum Sands almost 14 years ago. Prior to their move, Bevis and Mary had been farmers at Lowmead, where St. Luke's church is the most southern worship centre in the large Anglican Parish of Boyne River. Bevis has become well-known in the Boyne-Tannum community for his prowess as a bee-keeper and fresh honey producer, and as a skilled spinner of yarn from the fleeces of both sheep and alpaca. He is also highly skilled in horticulture and agriculture and he and Mary grow a variety of fruit and vegetable crops on their small acreage at Pacific Ranch. Both Bevis and Mary are prolific and active members of the Gladstone Spinners, Weavers and Fibre Workers group.

Ian McNeilly

Above Emerald Parish Councillors Vee and Hannah
Below Our young mum parishioners Vai Tuali and Hannah Ritson

St Luke's Emerald

This term, life at St Luke's has been very busy. A new Parish Council has been elected, a men's breakfast was held, a baptism took place and there was a Garden Party on the parish lawns.

At the end of May, the men enjoyed a gourmet barbeque breakfast and time of fellowship. The Lord Mayor Kerry Hayes was welcomed as the Guest Speaker and the men are looking forward to the next breakfast!

The annual Garden Party was in the theme of the 'Great Gatsby'. This highly successful afternoon tea was complemented by the beautiful lawns and gardens of St Luke's. As part of the Garden Party, a fashion parade was held, where clothes from the bargain shop were modelled by parishioners, including Reverend Honorio! This was a wonderful event enjoyed by both the church and wider community.

Christine Joass

St Peter's Springsure

How exciting to hear of the drought stricken areas of the west receiving good falls of rain. Our district got an average of two inches after receiving substantial falls only a fortnight before. Amazing to see how quickly the dry land responds to rainfall. The whole earth is smiling –heaven on earth. I hope God was given a big thank you for His goodness.

Once again, the wonderful band of ladies-the Guild accepted the challenge of catering for large crowds at the Show. A mammoth task tackled by so few, resulting in being successful financially. I hear that a gentleman volunteered his time and talent. Thank you for a job well done.

Bible Study, hosted at Sharon and Leonard's home continues and is enjoyed by those who attend. Following a sumptuous morning tea with lots of chatter, Bishop Alf. leads us through deep meanings of scripture, and learning to know God and come closer to Him.

Sunday School, under the expert guidance of Mrs. Watson, a teacher, music teacher and organist and much loved worshiper at St. Peter's, takes the class of happy little children whose faces say so much of what they are taught.

With much enthusiasm, St. Peter's Day was celebrated with a service written for the children. The wording of the hymns and prayers were written in a simpler form to enable the young folk to read and sing at their level. The church came alive with the sound of children's voices singing the hymns, saying the prayers and then acting out the part of Peter walking on the water, trying to catch fish that had other ideas, until he listened to Jesus voice telling him to fish on the other side of the boat to find that he had a numerous catch. That wasn't all. They played the part when the boat that Peter was in began to sink. Again Jesus called him to walk on the water which he did, but losing faith he began to sink. Jesus rescued him as He always rescues us when we sink in despair.

Anne Travers

"A mammoth task tackled by so few, resulting in being successful financially"

Cathedral Parish

Acolytes in training

Kathy Bryan (on the right) has been in training for Acolyte duty at St Paul's Cathedral, Rockhampton. She was trained by Margi Dabbs (on the left) and Helen Godwyn (centre). Margi has been performing the Acolyte duties for several years. Helen also holds the Verger (Administrative) role.

Allegations of Abuse

A protocol has been established to respond to any complaints of abuse within parishes and agencies of the Anglican Diocese of Rockhampton.
Anyone wishing to seek assistance should telephone The Director of Professional Standards:
Mr Greg Milles on 1800 242 544.

Want to advertise with us?

Advertising space is available for you to tell our readers about your business, with reasonable rates & payment terms.
Black & White or Colour.
Text Only or With Image.
For more details contact The Editor
gazette@anglicanchurchcq.org.au

Gazette Deadlines

Please send you articles and photos for inclusion in the Gazette to

gazette@anglicanchurchcq.org.au

The deadlines for these items for the 2016 issues are:

September 27

November 22

For 2017 the deadlines are

February 14th, May 14th, August 14th and November 14th

North Rockhampton

The Parish was very fortunate of the dedication and service by Rev Delfina during the period of interregnum. In our appreciation, the parish gave her a Royal Dolton dinner set; it might be like Hyacinth Bucket's with the hand painted periwinkles. It was a beautiful gesture on behalf of the parish. Bishop David, Rev Tom, wardens Lillias and Michael spoke very highly of the good work Delfina had achieved in keeping the parish together and wished her well in her new role as chaplain at the Rockhampton hospital.

The ecumenical morning tea was held in the parish hall and was well patronised. Music was supplied by Rev Tom playing well known popular tunes. It was real toe tapping stuff. Rev Tom was also the MC for the morning. Cannon Val Gribble was the guest speaker, she spoke on issues relating to the role GFS has played in supporting women down through the ages, however in the modern era GFS now consists of girls and boys. The GFS membership has increased in number; it is very evident in the developing countries. Cannon Val Gribble is currently raising funds so that members from poorer countries can attend the GFS world council in Perth. Funds for the morning tea were split between this project and for the family of Kate and Duncan Beresford for their daughter Francesca, who is suffering from Acute Myeloid Leukaemia. Pleas continue to pray for Frankie and her family.

On a happy note everyone appeared to have won a prize.

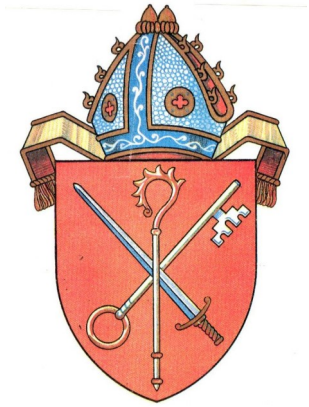
Laurie Fox

St Luke's Wandal

It was a great feeling to have Father Shaji, Frida and family move back into the rectory after more than 15 months since "Marcia's visit" in 2015. The rectory now has a lovely new roof, and after many generous donations from many parishioners, several improvements were carried out both inside and outside the house. I'm sure the family are enjoying being back in there and it is almost like a "new house". We held a monster Garage and Plant Sale in June and, once again, it was a huge success. Warden Shirley Gleeson spends so many hours pulling this event together, and it is amazing to see so much of one man's trash becoming another man's treasure!! Shirley is already planning the November Garage Sale! Our monthly Street Stalls continue to be a great fundraiser for the parish also.

Father Shaji is currently preparing several young people for confirmation, which will take place when Bishop David visits St. Luke's at the end of July. It will be a great occasion for the candidates, their families and our parish family.

Jan Nightingale



The See Endowment Fund

When the Diocese of Rockhampton was excised from the Diocese of Brisbane and established in 1892 it was hoped that a See Endowment Fund would be fully subscribed. Such a fund was put in place to make sure that the cost of having a Bishop of Rockhampton Diocese would be assured and not require support from the Diocesan budget. Unfortunately the fund was never fully established and the Diocese has had to live with that for the last 123 years. The fund however still exists, and income that is earned from capital invested becomes part of the annual budget for the Bishopric. The Diocese would be greatly assisted if, over 123 years later, the fund received new gifts and bequests from benefactors. Gifts can be made to the Diocese of Rockhampton, PO Box 710, Rockhampton QLD 4700 and bequests should be worded: *"I bequeath to the Corporation of the Synod of the Diocese of Rockhampton for the purpose of the See Endowment Fund."*

Synod experiences continued . . . .

(Continued from page 3)

the end it was decided to hold this debate over until next year after all reports and suggestions could be digested by BIC and Synod reps'. The result of this was that the contribution levy for 2017 is to remain at $4.00 per head.

Lindsay, our dedicated Dean of the Cathedral, put forward several motions and despite his brave attempts to have the motions passed they were soundly defeated. Well done Dean Lindsay for having a go.

Reports from all the agencies associated with the Diocese were presented in a variety of ways, all of which were very interesting. These reports included: Mission to Seafarers, Mother's Union and Anglicare, just to name a few. Of all the reports presented perhaps the Anglicare one was of the most interest as the new building in Musgrave Street had just been completed and was ready for use. All synod reps were invited to tour the building Sunday morning after the Synod Eucharist at the Cathedral. I took this opportunity to look through the building and was suitably impressed with the design that shows good practical thought had gone in to equipping a welfare agency for business. Congratulations Anglicare.

I commend the Presidential Address to all, to read and digest. The President took a hard look at the Diocese's current situation in regards to culture, tradition and difference. He also reflected on the 'Viabilities and Structures Task Group' Report to General Synod by outlining the ten areas considered important for the church to thrive and grow:

* Capacity for Mission
* Demographic Factors
* Geography
* Diocesan Resources
* Distribution. Number and age of clergy
* Governance
* Leadership
* A set of Diocesan Goals or Strategic Plan
* Capacity to Solve Persistent Problems
* New Models of Being Church

For us as a Diocese we are not immune to these challenges and it will mean change to some degree, but in the words of the President: "My sense is that we are up to the challenge, a bit frightened of the unknown, but willing to give it a go".

Please take the time to read the report.

As happened last year synod concluded early, thanks to the hard work by all present. It concluded with the Synod Eucharist in the Cathedral on Sunday morning where Rev. Tom Henderson-Brooke was collated as Archdeacon.

Thanks to the Rockhampton Leagues Club for hosting the Synod this year. It proved to be a good venue that catered well for all our needs.

And for me it was a positive and welcoming experience to the Diocese. Thank you.

Revd Capt Graeme Liersch
Mission Facilitator and Trainer
Central West

A Lay point of view

Being a first time representative for the 2016 Synod, I wasn't sure what to expect. The experience was a positive one even though some issues covered seemed repetitive and interminable. I particularly enjoyed hearing the presentations relating to fellow Australians, after all, we live in this great free country and yet our church attendances is rather low. I did note two rather common topics throughout the meeting: financial issues and change. Both topics that are, and will always be, never-ending. We so often get so tied up in financial problems and dilemmas that we often overlook and become led astray from our mission. Perhaps a few workshops throughout the meeting might help us all solve problems and issues and from there we can all move forward together. We are called to be proactive in our community; therefore we should also be proactive in our meetings. Overall, it was wonderful being in a room full of Christians all following the one true God and I pray we can all keep doing this in hope, faith and love in Christ.

Anna Slaughter

"My sense is that we are up to the challenge, a bit frightened of the unknown, but willing to give it a go"

Ms Suzie Christensen CEO of Anglicare catches up with Revd Capt Graeme Liersch the Mission Facilitator and Trainer Central West at Synod.

St Andrew's Gracemere

There were tears aplenty on Saturday night the 2nd of July when Gracemere Parish farewelled Rev. Narelle Kidson. Narelle had become close to our hearts after she burst into our parish like a whirlwind of fresh air. She was appointed in 2005 as the Priest component of a ministry team after her ordination. Her energy and enthusiasm soon had the ministry team up and running.

What followed was extensive training as we sought our vision and goals for the future. We also explored gifts of the congregation and acted on them. Visits to the community of Gracemere were next. Carols by Candle light become our first outreach event to encourage the community to come through the doors.

As Narelle's style of leadership was interactive and creative she soon had many more people coming forward to be Liturgical assistants and active members in the church life.

St Andrew's had become a place where fun and surprise happened. Even Sunday worship was not immune to this and the congregation became used to surprises. Members became used to being asked to participate in liturgical dances and other activities.

The outreach activities grew. The ministry team was terminated after seven years and members of the parish council became a wider team focus. The church had become somewhere where all members could find a place or many places to participate.

Bible studies grew from weekly Lenten studies. The church's vision was revisited yearly.

Over the last eleven years St Andrew lost many members to accidents and illness and these were times of sadness when Narelle comforted families and friends.

Sea Sunday, Pentecost, Easter celebrations, St. Andrew's day and Christmas became events to look forward to. We never knew what surprises were instore.

How do you put into words your gratitude to someone who has given you the confidence to find your purpose and a place to belong? What gift do you give someone who has found your gifts and encouraged you the use them?

Words cannot give a clear enough picture of the influence Narelle has had on our lives, our faith and our ministry. We wish her well and hope that although she is no longer our priest she will remain our friend.

Annette Breckenridge

The Mission to Seafarers at 160

Any 21st century seafarer transported back 160 years to the shipping world of 1856 would, at first sight, seem to have arrived at a very strange place. The vast bulk of the shipping industry was, as it had been for centuries, wind driven. Ships were far smaller, seafaring was infinitely more dangerous and shipwreck commonplace. The length of any voyage could sometimes be measured in years and sheer uncertainty about what the future might hold was the seafarer's lot. Foreign ports could be dangerous and unwelcoming, with the ship alongside for weeks awaiting a cargo, the surroundings far from salubrious and in some places, the sheer criminality of the waterfront overwhelming.

Seafarers 160 years ago were people apart from normal landside society, and in a world where communications were primitive, would find it difficult if not impossible to contact their families at home. Loneliness and isolation could be the accompaniment to their hard physical and hazardous work. And while the largest fleet in the world sailed under the Red Ensign, the workforce was surprisingly cosmopolitan, with seafarers from all over the world to be found in British ships.

The Mission to Seafarers is delighted to announce that the Revd Canon Stephen Miller, Regional Director East Asia, has won the coveted individual Dr Dierk Lindemann Welfare Personality of the Year Award. The International Seafarers' Welfare and Assistance Network (ISWAN) announced the Award winners on 24th June at a high-profile ceremony held in Manila, the Philippines.

The Mission to Seafarers began its life addressing a need that had been recognised as far back as the 1830s by the young Anglican clergyman John Ashley, who turned his back on a parish appointment to begin a ministry to seafarers in the Bristol Channel encouraged by the questioning of his small son as to where seafarers went to church. In his little schooner, he would spend 15 years visiting ships anchored and waiting favourable winds, holding services, bringing Bibles and effectively taking the church to his seaborne parishioners, who otherwise would have had no such opportunity for worship.

Ashley's work inspired others to minister to seafarers and by 1856, when the Mission to Seafarers was officially constituted, there were mission "stations" in a growing number of British ports and harbours, and within a short time, others opened abroad, with chaplains stationed on the Elbe, in Malta and Leghorn in the Mediterranean and on the other side of the Atlantic, in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

By 1866, the "Flying Angel" flag would be flying over a station in Singapore. "The vast parish of the waters", it was observed around that time - "is no longer an altogether neglected parish".

The steady spread of the Mission's work characterises its activities for the remainder of the 19th century, a period which saw unprecedented maritime expansion and dramatic technological change, with the unstoppable march of the steamship. Not that the sailing ship gave up the struggle, as the deep sea sailing tramp ship, and the sailing coaster would remain a feature of the shipping world well into the first third of the new century. The steamship's emergence might make shipping less prone to adverse winds, but seafaring remained a hazardous occupation. In 1881, more than one thousand British ships were wrecked. The reports of the daily work of chaplains around the Mission stations tell us of the very regular intervention of tragedy, with their melancholy task being to convey the sad news to the families of the lost. The winter storms and the uncertainties of position finding would invariably produce their harvest of shipwrecked mariners and those whose graves were the sea.

At the turn of the 20th century, there were more than seventy stations established; 56 around the home coasts and 18 overseas. On the staff there were, by then, 46 chaplains and 58 Scripture Readers, 3 lady workers and 10 lay helpers. There was a sizeable fleet of 12 steam and 8 sailing mission ships, along with 52 boats, providing services of all kinds, in the ports where the organisation was established. Lightships, offshore islands and vessels anchored in roadsteads all kept these craft busy, while in many ports, a launch would be the easiest conveyance for the chaplain or reader visiting ships.

Extracts from the journals of the chaplains and readers over the years provide insights into both their daily work with their shipborne parishioners and the changing face of shipping over the years. Behind these accounts are to be found real heroism, such as the efforts of the chaplain in San Francisco (in the 1870s one of the most violent ports of the world) to protect seafarers from the boarding house

(Continued on page 12)

Longreach Parish - Change is in the air

As Lucy, Edmund, Susan & Peter ventured further in to the freezing wintery world of Narnia, Beaver spoke up: "They say Aslan is on the move—perhaps he has already landed," but the moment the Beaver had spoken these words everyone felt quite different.... At the name of Aslan each one of the children felt something jump in its inside. (The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe by C.S. Lewis)

With the arrival of rain in the Central West, during June, there has come a sphere of excitement as the sense of change is occurring. One can't help but say: "Jesus is on the move – perhaps he has already arrived".

There has been for some years a physical drought that has restricted the ability of the region to move forward. Many a grazier has felt hopeless as they have had to destock or feed animals by hand, business owners have struggled due to the lack of graziers spending, this in turn has meant people have left the region because of lack of work. The situation has been desperate.

Beside the physical drought there has also been a spiritual drought, numbers in congregations have reduced either because people have left town due to no work, grown old and house bound or have lost their faith. Others have also lost faith in the traditional church structure, perhaps because we have not shared the love of Christ and his saving grace or because we have let them down, for whatever reason the numbers are low with the average age between 70 - 80 years.

But now unseasonal rain has come, change is in the air. Despite people saying: "The rainy season is over and there will be no rain now until late spring", we prayed for unseasonal rain and the Lord has delivered. We are also praying for unseasonal change in people's hearts, that they will experience the work of the Holy Spirit and meet Jesus Christ personally, that they will experience the saving grace of God and want to share what they have experienced. Change is in the air, perhaps Christ has started to bring the spiritual drought in the Central West to an end already.

Above:
Before the rain north of Longreach

Below:
Emerging green on the road in to Longreach from the east

Please praise God for the rain and pray with us for spiritual change in the Central West as Christ moves across this land. Change is scary at the best of times, but change we must.

Graeme Liersch

St Mary's Mount Morgan

As we have now completed six months of the current year it is time to look back and see how the Parish is progressing. I feel that even though we are small in numbers, those who attend worship and work for the Parish and beyond do a fine job and achieve all we aim for the under the Spiritual guidance of Father Paul Gribble and Cannon Val Gribble, three Lay Ministers with services held each Sunday and on special days. Together with our friends from the Uniting Church a service of Praise, Prayer and Thanksgiving is held monthly for the long term residents of the Mount Morgan Base Hospital.

Our Mothers day Cent Sale and periodical minor art unions have enabled us to maintain our buildings and support communities less fortunate than ourselves.

All the members of Parish Council are heavily involved in other community organizations, thus showing to the community of the Love of God working in their lives.

God Bless.

Keith S Hare

"Showing to the community of the Love of God working in their lives"

Cathedral Parish

The photo shows, the scaffolding is going up and reroofing is to commence on 18th July. Hopefully all work will be completed by mid-November.

St Paul's Cathedral to be reroofed.

Yes, 18 months after Cyclone Marcia our cathedral is to be reroofed.

A committee of Russell Girle (architect), David Rees (Diocesan Registrar), Mark Wyer and Sift Shanmugasundram (Civil and Structural Engineers), Grant Anderson (Electrical Engineer) and Doug Wyer (St Paul's Cathedral) have had many, many, meetings with Jo Ryan (loss adjuster) to reach the point that our cathedral will be fully reroofed, the paving which will be damaged during construction will be replaced with new paving, and the grounds lighting damaged by Marcia will be all be replaced.

From the beginning we have been asking the insurer for Ken Roxborough (stone mason, Brisbane) and Rob Jones (heritage plumber, Melbourne), to be the specialists to reroof and repair the damaged stonework. The insurer has agreed.

"St Paul's Cathedral to be reroofed"

Young organists in training

Catherine, Elizabeth (both 15 years) and James (13 years) Vandeleur have been learning organ from Roger Marks at St. Paul's Cathedral for about 10 months now. They are all heavily involved in a range of musical pursuits and can all play several different instruments.

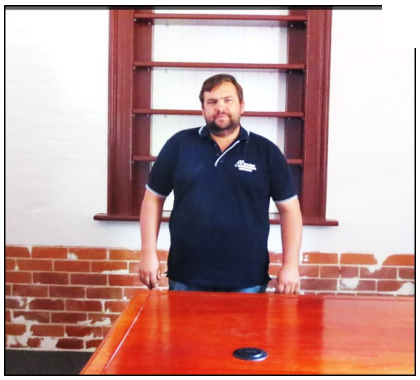
They are enjoying their newest instrument, the organ. This photo taken at the 7.30am service at St Paul's Cathedral, Rockhampton after Catherine, James and Elizabeth Vandeleur (in that order) played a hymn each and the final voluntary in the 7.30am service (their first time playing at a service). They are with Roger Marks, their organ teacher.

Marlene Dobinson

Cathedral organist Roger Marks with Catherine, James and Elizabeth Vandeleur

New Diocesan Office

John is standing in the soon to be Bishops office. The exposed brickwork around the bottom of the wall is the result of rising moisture and a necessity for the brickwork to breath without being concealed by paint.



The Diocesan Office will soon be able to move to the refurbished offices at 89 William Street, Rockhampton.
These offices have been refurbished by John Yde and his skilled carpentry team.
John's team has worked diligently and generously to fulfil the requirements that not only meets the Cathedral Parishes and the Diocese needs, he has also met the requirements of Heritage Department. As the work is near completion his craftsmanship and that of his team is to be applauded. The building now reflects the preserved and enhanced condition that is ascetically pleasing and suitable, as well as complimentary to the history of the building.

Marlene Dobinson

The Mission to Seafarers at 160 (Continued)

(Continued from page 9)
keepers and crimps who were not averse to murdering those who interfered with their trade.
There were chaplains who landed in foreign ports and established much-needed stations almost single handed, galvanising local support and the enthusiasm of volunteers, building and financing new buildings with a great deal of energy and faith, providing a welcome where once there had been none.
In each port where the Mission was established, there would be spiritual welfare freely available to all who sought it. It would be a welcome without conditions, available to seafarers of all races, colours and creeds. The maxim that "anyone may attend Mission services, but nobody must" has been an important rule to this day. Ship visiting was a vital part of the work, both to introduce the local mission to visiting seafarers who might not have previously been there, and to provide spiritual or other assistance and advice to individual crew members. If seafarers were left behind in hospital, the Mission staff would visit them and help with their rehabilitation and repatriation. There would hopefully be recreation facilities and entertainment, in many ports dances, picnics and sports were organised, the aim being to make a stay in port a happy one.
The successful station would invariably be well served by volunteers, who would offer friendship and a welcome to the visitors. Where large passenger ships regularly called and in large ports with a large number of ships, the degree of organisation required would be substantial.
The Mission has also found itself engaged in other areas. At the end of the 19th century and into the 20th, it was an active agent for the Temperance movement. Later it was to become a venue for courses and instruction for First Aid and St. John's Ambulance certificates, a particularly sensible activity, bearing in mind that very few ships carried anyone medically qualified. Hundreds of seafarers benefited and lives were surely saved.
The two world wars were to place very great responsibilities upon the MtS. In both of these world-wide conflagrations, it was required to expand its activities enormously, ministering to the armed forces in addition to the Merchant Navy, working in the convoy anchorages and suffering itself, as the ports were devastated by air raids. And between the two wars, the great depression, with hundreds of ships laid up and unemployed seafarers in every port city, required a new dimension of care and assistance.
Throughout its life, the MtS has changed and adjusted with the industry and the seafarers it continues to serve. Just as the crew of a steamship, with its engineers and firemen, was markedly different to that of its sailing predecessors, the Mission has adjusted to each new challenge. The uncertain trade of sailing ships gave way to the scheduled services of liners, the often weeks in port shortened to days or even hours alongside, so the challenges of providing spiritual and physical welfare have also changed. Major ports, once famed the world over for cargoes like coal, found themselves empty of ships as their cargoes disappeared. Ports, once in the city centre, have been abandoned to deep water berths far down the estuary, so how are the seafarers to be adequately served? Access to berths or shore leave may be restricted for security constraints.
The second half of the 20th century saw these changes accelerate, with many implications for the MtS. Containerisation, with its furious schedule keeping and specialised terminals have changed the face of liner shipping completely. Scale economies, with gigantic ships staffed by tiny crews have brought social challenges of isolation and loneliness to seafarers hard pressed to enjoy any social life aboard their ships. Changes in communications technology and the internet have made it possible for seafarers to be in touch with their families, but only if this provision is available to them.
Would the time-travelling 21st century seafarer transported to the year of the Mission's birth find that there are common features of seafaring life between then and now? Certainly, seafaring is safer, but is it any less lonely in the cabined ships of 2016, with their small multinational crews and short port stays? The seafaring population which forms the Mission's clientele may be very different, but their need for a friendly welcome when their ship arrives in port remains very much the same.

Clermont Parish

What's Happened? Half the year has gone ---------!

First, Thanks be to God and prayer, Sue is recovering slowly from her surgery (slow and steady wins the race) and Revd Bob (Witten) also recovering from minor medical treatments.

Synod: Michelle and I once again made the pilgrimage; always enjoy the weekend and leave spiritually rewarded also full of absorbed information from each session. Always great to catch up with the old and greet the new.

Car Boot Sale: Saturday 21st May. What a great success; start 7.30am to 1.30pm. A sausage sizzle breakfast plus scones, jam & cream morning tea were both a winner and added extra dollars to the coffers. The hall was bursting with tables full of great saleable donated goods; outside the car boot vendors were happy with sales.

Bishop David & Revd Jan visited Saturday 4th Sunday 5th June

Our Safe Ministry Workshop held on the Saturday was enjoyed by all who attended: Thank you Revd Jan for a detailed presentation. I feel sure we have gained some knowledge / understanding of the topics discussed.

A fellowship dinner was enjoyed by all who attended on the Saturday night. We decided to go out for dinner; no preparing, presenting, or cleaning up afterwards - great night.

Sunday 5: Bishop David Confirmed two of our parish gentlemen during Sunday service. What a wonderful spiritual commitment. A scrumptious morning tea & cutting of the conformation cake was enjoyed by all after service - what a great weekend.

Winter's here, brrrrrrrr. That's all for this time

Sandra Strohfeldt

"To visit GFS branches to prepare the incoming World President as South Africa becomes the host country in 2017"

GFS at work in South Africa and Mozambique

I have recently returned from 16 days in South Africa and Mozambique. My brief for the visit was to visit GFS branches in South Africa, to promote GFS through many meetings with Bishops, Civic and State Government officials, to prepare the incoming World President as South Africa becomes the host country in 2017 and to visit the new GFS country of Mozambique.

I last visited South Africa in 1999 just five years after the African National Congress won the national election and Nelson Mandela became President. It was interesting to see the great changes but also to observe the many problems that still prevail, violence, poverty, high unemployment and in many cases still a divide between black and white. Some government ministers told me that the people could not accept that change takes time but it still saddened me to see so many people looking through garbage for food and begging in the streets.

The cost of food seemed similar to Australia but wages are much lower of course and many live at or below the poverty line.

Based in Johannesburg I travelled 2000 klms by car which enabled me to see so much of the beautiful country. Firstly, to the what was once the Transkie homeland, where many of the apartheid heroes were born, including Nelson Mandela. In 1999 it was one large diocese, now two growing dioceses and so many GBFS members. South Africa has chosen to name the organisation the Girls and Boys Friendly Society and they have large numbers. They believe that to combat the family violence and all its associated problems they need to include both boys

(Continued on page 14)

Val with the Bishop of Johannesburg and Youth members and Leaders

GFS work continues

(Continued from page 13)
and girls and it was a joy to see them worshipping together in great numbers. The music of South Africa is always special and I was certainly not disappointed as singing and dancing are so much a part of their liturgies.

And back to Johannesburg where I attended the Corpus Christi Mass at the beautiful St Mary's Cathedral, a major feast day when the oils are blessed and the priests renew their vows. I was greatly moved with the Bishop blessing the hands of each priest (well over 100) and giving them each a personal message. Of course the service was very long but that is Africa and time seems to go quickly as one becomes involved in the ceremony and singing.

There are government portfolios for religious affairs and my role was to seek support for the 2020 World Council which will be held in Johannesburg. During breaks in these meetings I visited the Jail, once called "The Hill", now a museum but a very sobering place as one reads the history of the horrific treatment of political prisoners during the apartheid period. So often in today's violent world, we ponder on how man could do to man (and women) such violent acts.

And so to Mozambique, some seven hours drive from Johannesburg. Portuguese speaking so often interpreters needed. A meeting with the Bishop and prospective leaders was so encouraging and the Bishop aims to have a GFS branch in each of his dioceses. He decided that it would be good for us to take part in his weekend plans to enable us to see some of his country. His diocese is much the same size as ours and so travelling long distances was very familiar to both of us. We spent six hours on the road to Xia Xia (supposed to take 3 hours to drive the 210 klm but with speed limits of 60 and 80 klm max and heavy traffic it was slow going) Here the Bishop was to elevate a community church to parish level. I have never experienced so many people in church, not even at big celebrations in PNG. People were packed inside and outside and I would estimate there were 1000 present. There were 90 baptisms and 125 confirmations. As well the Bishop commissioned the new GFS leaders and a Chaplain to care for them. After I had spoken we had to leave to get back over the border that night and after three hours the service was only up to the Creed. But as in South Africa the singing was wonderful and no one seemed to worry about what would probably be a five hour service.

Val with members of the Boys Friendly Society

The last week was spent in preparing for a Training Day which I conducted – basic training for GFS leaders, both men and women and for a weekend GFS Youth Conference (supported by the Government). GFS Youth and leaders came from all over South Africa as well as representatives from Mozambique and a large contingent came by bus from Zambia, a 29 hour bus trip through Zimbabwe. The Opening Service was at Sophiatown, well known as the church of Trevor Huddleston, an apartheid activist and writer, led by the Bishop of Johannesburg. A Day Conference in the City Hall with both Government and Church leaders presenting sessions, and then an uplifting Closing Service in the Cathedral on the Sunday.

I saw a very vibrant and growing church but I learnt to appreciate the many concerns that the church tries to address with few funds. I commented to the Bishop of Johannesburg about the numbers I saw in church but he reminded me that there are 10 million people in Johannesburg and only 55,000 Anglicans so a long way to go he said! There are 78 parishes in his diocese.

I am sure that GFS will be in good hands as South Africa becomes the host country and that Thembeka Pama, the incoming President will bring much to GFS worldwide.

Canon Val Gribble

World President GFS

A happy MU group

AnglicareCQ at work

This photo of the young drivers is from the Queensland Police Service

Nine Indigenous women with young children took part in the programme

Remember the rush of getting behind the wheel for the first time?

Getting your licence brings great freedom for young people in regional Queensland, but with it comes responsibility and dangers.

AnglicareCQ is helping prepare our young people for life behind the wheel.

We're working with local schools, the Emerald and Blackwater PCYC, Queensland Police and the Department of Transport and Main Roads to make sure when young people get their learners licence, they're ready for the road ahead.

We're providing driving simulators so young drivers can practice dealing with the unexpected in safety, and workshops covering everything from road rules and applying for your learners licence to budgeting to buy and run your own set of wheels.

AnglicareCQ recently teamed up with the Gladstone Good Beginnings Indigenous Family support worker to present Empowering Our Mums: an eight-week program building social and emotional wellbeing among Indigenous mothers.

Nine Indigenous women with young children took part, learning more about self esteem, relationships, anger management, respect, grief and building happiness.

Along the way we tried our hands at scrapbooking, cooking, making dream catchers, a personal training session and yarning together over a shared meal.

We also ran a free playgroup on site for the children of the women participating in the program, and a volunteer-run transport service for people who needed a hand to get to the group.

The project was a great way to build skills and share information, strengthen ties with the local Indigenous community, and build our community's social and emotional health.

Anglican Church Central Queensland

Safe Ministry Awareness Workshops

These awareness workshops are intended to provide an introduction to Safe Church policies and procedures.

Workshops are for all church workers: Clergy, Parish Councillors, Wardens, Lay Ministers, Youth and Children's Leaders, Pastoral Carers, etc.

This course will cover:

- duty of care, codes of conduct, positional power, transparency and accountability
- protecting vulnerable people including children at risk of harm-definitions, indicators and response procedures
- information about training, recruiting and supervising leaders
- how to establish and run safe church ministry programs including risk management

For more information and to register, contact:
Diocesan Safe Ministry Training Officer:
Revd Jan Robinson (07) 49224562

Please bring your own lunch. Morning and afternoon tea will be provided.

No charge for individuals.

scta TOWARDS SAFER CHURCHES — National Council of Churches in Australia

This workshop is an NCCA-SCTA endorsed workshop run by Safe Ministry Resources

2016 Dates
Saturdays - 9.30am- 3.30pm

Barcaldine: July 16

Winton: July 30

Keppel: August 20

Mt Morgan: August 27

Springsure: Oct 1

North Rocky: Oct 15

Moranbah: Nov 5

Anglican Church Central Queensland

The Anglican Gazette
the quarterly magazine of the Anglican Diocese of Rockhampton

Postal Address:
PO Box 710, Rockhampton 4700

Phone: (07) 4927 3188
Fax: (07) 4922 4562

Email:
gazette@anglicanchurchcq.org.au

Website:
www.anglicanchurchcq.org.au

The Editorial Panel is not responsible for the opinions expressed by contributors – nor do their views necessarily reflect the views of the Editorial Panel or the Diocese.

Submission Requirements:
Deadline:14th of the month prior to publication.
Length: 150-200 words. Longer with permission.
Images: minimum size 1600x1200 pixels OR 750 KB.
The Panel reserves the right to edit content to fit space requirements if needed.

Members of GBFS leading visitors to Eucharist at Mbashe Cathedral

The power to love

In the next few editions Bishop David has asked that we print a series on Islam written by Revd Samuel Green and first published in the Tasmanian Anglican to help us think through this issue.

Scarcely a day goes by when we are not confronted by Islam. Every day our media has stories about Muslims, our metadata is now being stored because of radical Islam, the world is undergoing a massive Muslim demographic shift, our governments are spending billions of dollars fighting jihadists and trying to deradicalise local youth, and there are new speech codes we are required to conform to. With these also come many opportunities to make Muslim friends and explain the Gospel to a new, and eager, audience.

I want to begin with the subject of loving everyone. The Bible is clear that we are to love everyone, even our enemies:

But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you. (Matthew 5:44)

As we watch the news and listen to radical Muslims, Christians are getting the idea that some Muslims are our enemies. Christians have told me they feel fearful, angry, and confused. It is natural to feel this way, yet God's command for us is to love everyone, even Muslims.

Whereas in the past our culture was sympathetic to us and so it was relatively easy to love it, now we are finding hostility from some Muslims, and are having to learn what it means to love our enemies. This is a new pastoral issue that the Western church will have to work through.

We must remember that most Muslims are not our enemies, but yet the actions of radicals speaks loud. We must not let the radical Muslims motive us to fear and hate. Instead we are to grow in love, just as we grow in other areas like prayer, service, holiness, and Bible reading. Pray that God will help you grow in your love for Muslims.

There are two mistakes we can make: First, by saying we should love Muslims because Islam is a religion of peace. This denies the facts. The second is that Islam is hostile to us and therefore we should hate them. This is wrong too. The gospel gives us the power to love everyone and face the truth. Our culture does not have this power and so either denies the facts or responds with hate. As Christians we have the power to speak the truth in love and love everybody.

Samuel Green

You could find out more about Revd Samuel at http://www.anglicantas.org.au/people/?item=1060

You may like to research more on this issue at the web site

http://engagingwithislam.org