



## Anglican Diocese of Tasmania *a healthy church... transforming life*

9 July 2008

15/08

From the Bishop's Desk

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ

At the time of you reading this communication Gayelene and I will be on our way to England for the Lambeth Conference and then on to the United States, on Long Service Leave, to visit our son and his family.

I would appreciate your prayers for the outcomes of the Lambeth Conference especially as we work through some controversial issues.

*In my absence +Chris Jones will be in charge as Vicar General. Please keep Chris in your prayers.*

### CONFIRMATION SERVICE AT ST GEORGE'S BATTERY POINT

Late last month I shared a wonderful time with the folk at Battery Point. In my travels around the Diocese it never ceases to amaze me how God works in the lives of people – and through our wonderful animal friends. I was told of the ministry of two guinea pigs, “Sermon” and “Mystery” and how they are used by one of the Chaplains at the Repatriation Hospital when she is visiting patients. “Sermon” – I am told is the “chatty” one and “Mystery” is very affectionate, cuddling up to people. The ministry is called – what else but “Pets as Therapy”.

### BISHOP'S DAY/BOARD MEETING AT COLLEGIATE

The school continues to develop stimulating programs and all are awaiting the opening of the new Middle School in September. I enjoyed a privileged tour of the building with the Principal, Mrs Robyn Kronenberg, and was struck by the flexibility of the community spaces, formal class areas, and recreation and staff amenities. I look forward to seeing it all ‘in action’ with the enthusiasm and energy of students and staff.

### ANGLICAN MEN'S SOCIETY AGM

The historic village of Ross saw the gathering of men from across the Diocese. The Revd Ken Wills oversaw our worship and Herb Harding our business meeting. Reports were well received from the three key branches of Moonah, Holy Trinity Launceston, and Longford/Perth. A new brochure was show cased.

### SUNDAY WORSHIP AT ST GEORGE'S SORELL

A lasting impression of the Sunday worship at St George's is of the sunlight streaming in through the windows upon the 'Jesus People of Light'. The Rector, The Ven. Andrew Lake is a lover of history and this shows through in his life and ministry. A new coloured brochure of St George's sets out history linked to today. The great grandson of a former rector is to lead this month's Rural Bible Forum there. How's that for linking history to today?!

### CONFIRMATION AT HUTCHINS

The baptism and confirmation of boys and staff members is a highlight of ministry in our Anglican Schools. It was especially significant on this occasion because Revd John Goodwin concludes his chaplaincy this September prior to leave and school chaplaincy in New Zealand. We thank John and ask God's blessing upon him, Diane and the children in their new life and ministry.

### REVD JAMES McKEE

The Ordination Service at St John's Launceston fittingly followed Diocesan Council and its consideration of a Mission Action Plan. I invariably experience a profound gratitude and sense of awe as God's people came together in worship and prayer for the ordination of our brothers and sisters. James' ordination as Deacon in the Church of God was no exception. PTL! Please pray for James and Bronwyn and their children in this new step of discipleship.

### REVD KAY WEBBER

I was advised last week that Revd Kay Webster passed away. Please pray for his wife, Doreen and family during the difficult time.

### PUBLIC LECTURE – RANDOM DESIGNER

Randomness, Purpose, God, Evolution – *Can they go together?*

Professor Richard Colling

LECTURE FOR 2008 Friday 18 July at 6.15pm

at the Centenary Lecture Theatre, University of Tasmania

Enquiries Prof Alan Carmichael 62 264860

### TALKING OF JESUS: BE YOURSELF

*One of the things I like about Church Army is that it's filled with people of passion. It reminded me of a story I came across Paul Beasley-Murray's book, 'Transform Your Church'.*

*A newly employed American salesman shocks his boss by his apparent illiteracy when he wrote in his first report, "I see this outfit who aint never bought ten cents worth of nothing from us and sole them some goods. I am now going to Checawgo."*

*Before his manager could fire him, a second report arrived saying, "I came to Checawgo and sole them haff a million." Embarrassed but unsure whether he should fire the salesman, the manager referred the reports to the company president.*

*The next day, staff were surprised to see the reports pinned to the noticeboard with a letter from the president, saying, "We ben spending two much time tryin to spel instead of tryin to sel. I want everybody should red these letters from Good, who is doin a grate job, and you should do like he done."*

*The story reminds me of two things. First, evangelism begins with noticing a need and meeting it. The Chicago firm bought half a million not because Mr Good had a slick pitch. Rather, I suspect it's because he bothered enough to visit and create a relationship with them. Second, we should be ourselves. In all likelihood, Mr Good helped the Chicago firm understand its true needs because he spoke their language. Their response was far greater than he could have hoped or imagined. You've gotta love people with passion!*

From, *Resonance*, Church Army Australia's e-newsletter of June 2008. Contact the editor - email: [wayne@churcharmy.com.au](mailto:wayne@churcharmy.com.au) – ph: 0407 408 333

SHORT LIST ANNOUNCED for 2008 Australian CHRISTIAN BOOK OF THE YEAR awards

From over 50 titles recently published by 27 Australian publishers, judges appointed by the Australian Christian Literature Society have identified the nine titles below, from which this year's winner will be selected.

**666 And All That** John Dickson, Greg Clarke; Aquila Press  
**God Next Door** Simon Carey Holt; Acorn Press  
**Heart of Stone** Hoa Van Stone; Heart of Stone  
**Men Firing Through all of Life** Al Stewart; Blue Bottle Books  
**My Seventh Monsoon** Naomi Reed; Ark House Press  
**Please! No More Boring Sermons** Keith Weller; Acorn Press  
**Psalmscapes** Mal Austin, Matthew Jacoby; HSM Publishing  
**Shocked by Blessing** Rod Thompson, Carolyn Kelshaw; National Institute for Christian Education  
**Spectator's Guide to World Views** Simon Smart (ed); Blue Bottle Books

The winner will be announced at an event in Sydney during August when winners of the Young Christian Writers Award, and the Australian Theological Writers Award will also be announced

Details of the event can be requested by email to [admin@spcka.org.au](mailto:admin@spcka.org.au) or by telephone to 1300-13-SPCK

See: [www.anglicantas.org.au/](http://www.anglicantas.org.au/)

*Australian Christian Literature Society is a special Unit of Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge-Australia (SPCKA)*

Yours sincerely in Christ's service  
Shalom



John Harrower  
Bishop of Tasmania