

## *SAFE CHURCH COMMUNITIES November - December 2009*

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*For distribution to clergy, coordinators, children's, families and youth leaders, newsletter editors*

Dear everyone

Thank you to all those who have sent back the Parish Check Lists that were emailed out with the last news letter. Margaret and I do appreciate the time you have taken to do this as it really helps us to assist you in your task of keeping your parishes safe and healthy.

Thank you too to those parishes Margaret and I have visited. It's great to meet and talk with you. On our recent visit to Devonport a big group did the Faithfulness in Service and ChildSafe Team Member training. Some people from Port Sorell joined us. On 31 October at St James' New Town Margaret provided ChildSafe Team Member training to a group from several parishes and I met with the Parish Council at Glenorchy to go through the Faithfulness in Service training module. Congratulations to those parishes!

If we haven't visited your parish yet and you would like us to help you with training or answer questions, please don't hesitate to give us a call. Two or three parishes might like to combine as happened earlier in the year with Cressy.

Congratulations to those who have done the ChildSafe training successfully online. The Local Ministry Support Team at St Helens was one of the first groups to complete their ChildSafe training online. Well done! We also want to affirm our Diocesan Youth Pastors who are working really hard to ensure that their programs are operating within ChildSafe Guidelines. It has been a huge encouragement to us.

### *Safe Church Communities information on the Diocesan website*

We value your feedback on the Safe Church Communities page on the Diocesan website and changes reflecting this are happening. Please get into the habit of visiting it regularly and let us know what you think. Just a reminder - the easiest way is to click on <http://www.anglicantas.org.au/about-safechurch/> and you're straight there. Or, from the Home Page of [www.anglicantas.org.au](http://www.anglicantas.org.au) you can click on About Us on the top left hand corner and then Safe Church Communities on the drop down menu. I'm hoping to have the PowerPoint presentation for the Faithfulness in Service training up soon, together with presenter notes. However, changes may take time as the Diocese is in the process of reviewing the website.

### *Emergency Response Training*

On 7 November at Edge Anglican Phillip Day from Scripture Union Victoria conducted training in Emergency Response for Anglican Camping and Youth Pastors. It was great to see the commitment of those who attended, (not least in giving up a sunny Saturday) to make sure they were prepared for all emergencies. Thank you to all those people. Margaret has put together a Guide for Emergency Response which will be up on the website. A useful little booklet called Diffusing a Critical Incident is already on the website.

### *Just a reminder*

Margaret and I work part time (15 hours per week) so that means we are not in the office all the time. We are there most Mondays until 2.30 pm. At other times you can leave a message for us on 6220 2020 and we will get back to you as soon as possible. Please indicate if it is urgent. Alternatively send us an email.

Thank you all for your commitment to safe and healthy parishes.

Margaret Savage  
Safe Church Communities Administrator  
[margaret.savage@anglicantas.org.au](mailto:margaret.savage@anglicantas.org.au)

Anne Foot  
Director of Professional Standards  
[dps@anglicantas.org.au](mailto:dps@anglicantas.org.au)