



Anglican Diocese of Tasmania  
*ahealthychurch... transforminglife*

18 January 2008

01/08

From the Bishop's Desk

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ

An exciting year has begun and I take this opportunity to wish you and your families every Blessing for 2008 as you follow Jesus and together we build a **healthychurch . . . transforminglife**.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

I find the Glenview Chapel a moving place to begin the special services that mark the Christmas season with the wonder and awe of the Incarnation. The elderly, their families, friends, helpers and the great staff team led by Christine Dibley then delight in an extraordinary afternoon tea including a huge Christmas cake – no evening meal required!

I thoroughly enjoyed the majesty of the midnight service at the Cathedral with the choir and people from all over the world joining together in the good news of Emmanuel 'God with us'. The Cathedral Service was made extra special this year when my son, Scott, appeared unexpectedly as a member of the clerical procession into the Cathedral. What a huge grin he had as he entered, cope and all, into the joy of this Cathedral festivity.

Christmas morning was celebrated in the more intimate family setting at St Matthew's Rokeby with Robert Stanley amidst imaginative drama, music and generous hospitality initiated at the Lord's Table and carrying into the decorated fellowship centre with fine food and fun.

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

The print media article focused on some positive news of improvements in world-wide well-being and called for commitment to peace making. See more at <http://www.anglicantas.org.au/bishop/jh20071216christmas.html>

FAMILY TIME

Our elder son and family spent Christmas with us prior to their departure for doctoral studies in the USA. It was precious time and we continue to develop our IT communication skills. A growing need in today's global village.

### CMS SUMMerview 2008

*Summerview*, the annual CMS mission conference at Port Sorell was very well attended. Bible Studies in Nehemiah *The Triumph and Failure of Reformation* by Don Carson and addresses on *Mission in a Changing World* by Rose Dowsett were excellent. A highlight was Rose's testimony of God's gracious work in her life. Also Kriol Bible translation in Australia, church planting in Slovenia and university ministry in Mexico were all times of experiencing front line mission and learning from it for our mission contexts. The place of prayer and our reliance on the work of the Holy Spirit provided further challenge. What an encouragement to continue growing in my walk with the Lord Jesus with full confidence in the faithfulness of God.

Summerview 2009 is 15-18 January 2009 at Port Sorell - put in diary now☺

### ORDINATION OF REVD AILEEN FITZGERALD

St David's Cohee was full of bustling festivity as we gathered for Aileen's ordination. The Parish of Burnie turned out in strength as Aileen, fresh from her pre-ordination retreat led by Jill McCoy, was prayed for with the laying on of hands and set apart for ministry as a priest. Will Briggs' sermon was a fine challenge to follow Jesus in loving service and the presence of Aileen's sons from the mainland was an added cause of celebration.

### THE VENERABLE JILL McCOY

It gives me great pleasure to announce the appointment of Jill McCoy as Mission Support Officer for the North West Mission Network. This extensive network covers all the western coastal area of Tasmania plus the north west from Smithton to Deloraine. Quite a bite! Jill has responsibility for a significant area of this network in her role as Enabler for four of these parishes. In her ministry with us, Jill has demonstrated capacity to discern and draw out issues, educate and pastor, handle conflict and promote mission – all in a day's work, well, not quite but you get the idea. I am grateful to Jill for accepting this appointment.

### ORDINATION OF THE TWO ASSISTANT BISHOPS

We are putting together the final preparations for the Ordination as bishops of CHRIS JONES and ROSS NICHOLSON on 26 February 2008. For clarification, 'Ordination' is the descriptor of this Service as per *A Prayer Book for Australia 1995*. 'Consecration' is an earlier term used in the *Book of Common Prayer 1662* and *An Australian Prayer Book 1978*.

The service will be held at St David's Cathedral at 7.00 pm. Invitation lists are currently being drawn up .

### REVD SCOTT SARGENT

I am delighted to announce that Scott has accepted my invitation to be the Enabler of the Parish of Break O'Day in North East Tasmania. The Parish is particularly keen to gain from Scott's skills in outreach. Scott is an officer in the Church Army and his gifting and training have been of blessing in his current and continuing role as Chaplain at the Launceston Church Grammar School and as Army Chaplain.

REVD PREMARAJAH (PREM) THEVATHASAN

I am very pleased to advise that Prem has accepted my offer to become Priest in Charge of the Parish of Deloraine. Details of Prem's commissioning will be advised in the near future. I had the privilege of ministering with Prem and Yogi when Prem was in charge of the Tamil Congregation in the Diocese of Melbourne. I led the Bible studies at their weekend camp and enjoyed at most rich time of fellowship and Tamil food – mouth watering! [I should explain that this is not the reason that the Nomination put forward in their unanimous nomination of Prem for this ministry at Deloraine ☺.] Please pray for Prem, his wife Yogi and the Parish of Deloraine as preparations continue for their arrival.



*Beyond  
Imagination  
The Gathering*

1<sup>st</sup> March 2008 10am – 5pm  
Door of Hope,  
40 Glen Dhu Street, South Launceston

Can I encourage you to make every effort to attend this important Diocesan event and invite your family and friends. There is a full program including the Idea of North – a world recognised a cappella quartet, the return of Peter Gray and his amazing wobbly wire, Cameron Semmens the Tasmanian poet extraordinaire, Scripture Union Children's Program and Infants Creche and the all new Gathering Gallery

Further information can be found at <http://www.anglicantas.org.au/>

SOME DIARY DATES

23 January	7.30pm Commissioning Ken McDermid, Priest-in-Charge, St Paul's Glenorchy
26 February	7pm Ordination of Bishops, Cathedral Church of St David The Ven Dr Chris Jones and the Ven Ross Nicholson
1 March	<i>Beyond Imagination</i> , Diocesan Gathering, Launceston

Yours sincerely in Christ's service  
Shalom

John Harrower  
Bishop of Tasmania