



From the Bishop's Desk

## Anglican Diocese of Tasmania *ahealthychurch... transforminglife*

22 February 2008

03/08

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ

### APOLOGY – A GREAT DAY FOR AUSTRALIA

I joined many Tasmanians gathered on the lawns of Parliament House in Hobart to hear a most wonderful and moving speech of apology to the indigenous community of Australia [http://www.aph.gov.au/house/Rudd\\_Speech.pdf](http://www.aph.gov.au/house/Rudd_Speech.pdf)

### FURNEAUX ISLANDS' ADVENTURE

Three marvellous days on the Furneaux Islands which commenced with a very enjoyable flight to Lady Barron with Flinders Island Aviation Services. I met with many people, enjoyed a mystery tour, viewed Marj Varieux Rocks Collection, joined parishioners for lunch, presented certificates to members of the parish, met community leaders, farmers and had the privilege to visit a special lady in hospital and had the opportunity to pray with her before she died.

See photos at <http://www.tasmaniananglican.com/>

### BEAUTIFUL BUCKLAND

*Break Me Neck* and *Break Me Gall* hills never cease to both bring a smile and also a sober reminder of the challenges earlier bishops of Tasmania faced in visiting the Anglican people throughout our island state.

I had a special time worshipping and meeting with the members of the Buckland Parish and share lunch with them. It was greatly encouraging to see the Parish growing with all sharing in wonderful fellowship under the guidance of Ross and Val Ellwood.

### MY PASTORAL LIFESTYLE

Rural life, with donkeys, suits Bishop Harrower, says Linda Smith in *The Mercury* on 23 January 2008. To you can find the article as it appeared in the paper at the bottom of the [tasmaniananglican.com](http://tasmaniananglican.com) home page. We have placed the article with kind permission of *The Mercury*. Drinking my Argentine tea, mate', and the first public photo of 'The Donkey Whisperer' – with my apologies to Gayelene ☺

### VALENTINE'S DAY

Last week I was chatting to Merv and Norma Gordon in the Cathedral carpark. They were setting up for the Floral Festival and the theme for their display was "angels". I suggested to Merv that he could dress up and be an angel in the

Cathedral and straight away Norma said "Oh he's always an angel....whatever he is dressed in!" Now that's Valentine's day!

#### YOUNGER CHRISTIANS EXPERIENCE GREATER GROWTH

Sifting through the data, the National Church Life Survey (NCLS), a cross-denominational research organisation, has reported that Generation Y, born 1977 to 1991, showed an improvement in all the core qualities relating to the church's health and vitality from the period of 2001 to 2006.

by Christian Today Australia <http://au.christiantoday.com/article/younger-christians-experience-greater-growth/3741.htm> Posted: Wednesday, January 16, 2008, 16:35 (EST)

#### SCHOOLS SUNDAY

Tasmanian Churches are celebrating and supporting local schools in a special way on 2 March through the launch of PRAYPAL – adopt a school in prayer. Scripture Union has developed this excellent resource to assist us to pray for, learn about and listen to the hearts of those engaged in the life of local schools. If this date is not suitable for your parish then choose another day to celebrate. You will be involving your congregation in mission – just down the road.

See [http://www.supakids.org.au/schools\\_sunday/](http://www.supakids.org.au/schools_sunday/)

*A Celebration of the Institution of the Lord's Supper, the  
Renewal of Commitment of Christ's Ministry, and the  
Blessing of Oils*

**WEDNESDAY**

19 March 2008

11 am Cathedral Church of St David

**AND**

4pm St Andrew's Westbury

Can I please encourage all clergy and laity to attend one of these important and very moving services.

For further details contact my Personal Assistant, Sandra Fagan – 62202015,

The Dean, Dr Lindsay Stoddart – 62 344900      **or**

Revd Jo Pyecroft – 63911042

***Light refreshments will follow each service***



*Beyond*

*Imagination*

*The Gathering*

**JUST 8 DAYS TO GO!**

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/>

**Please note that there are two mini buses leaving from Battery Point /Wellspring and from Claremont. There are limited seats left. The cost is \$20 per person return. Please contact Revd Bruce Geeves on his mobile 0424 693495 if you would like to join the folk travelling on the buses.**

**Food will be available to purchase on site at an approximate price of \$6 - \$8**

Yours sincerely in Christ's service  
Shalom

*+John*

John Harrower  
Bishop of Tasmania