

## St John's Weekend away in Toukley

- 9.30am Prayer, Praise and Proclamation 2** (S.S. p.13)  
Romans 3:19-26 (p.1114) Carolyn Wulff  
Psalm 143 (p.620) Ben Williams  
**'Deliverance'** Robert Pryor
- 6.30pm PowerPoint**  
Genesis 32:24-30 (p.33) David Warren-Gash  
**'What is Your Name?'** Andrew Drury

## NEXT WEEK

## 22 MARCH 2009

## LENT 4

- 8.00 am Lord's Supper 2B** (S.S. p.70)  
Ezekiel 47:1-12 (p.869) Geoff Lloyd  
[John 4:1-42](#) (p.1052) Don Lamb  
**'The Real Thirst Quencher'** Brian Heath
- 9.30 am Lord's Supper 2A** (S.S. p.62)  
Kids Spot Gabrielle Smith  
Ezekiel 47:1-12 (p.869) Rick Lovegrove  
[John 4:1-42](#) (p.1052) Sue Lovegrove  
**'The Real Thirst Quencher'** Brian Heath
- 6.30 pm PowerPoint**  
Ezekiel 47:1-12 (p.869) Jamie Mackenzie  
[John 4:1-42](#) (p.1052) Philip Simpson  
**'The Real Thirst Quencher'** Brian Heath

### Support Ministries:

**Cleaning:** Iris Bramley, Dianne Tracy, Ruth Hipwell

### Sidespeople:

**8.00am** Geoff & Gwenne Rutter  
**9.30am** Fiona Watson, Valerie Pearson  
**6.30pm** Jon Warren-Gash, Lachlan Scott

### Morning Tea:

**8.00am** Barbara Lloyd  
**9.30am** Ruth Hipwell, Julia Caladine, Les & Colleen Szabo

### Crèche:

Sue Moon, Helen Browne, Michael Hammersley

### Supper:

Jamie Mackenzie, Bethany Wright, James Parkinson

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Website: [www.stjohnsasquith.org.au](http://www.stjohnsasquith.org.au)

**Minister: Brian Heath** Email: [bheath@stjohnsasquith.org.au](mailto:bheath@stjohnsasquith.org.au) (**Day off: Tuesday**)

**Youth Minister:** Andrew Drury Ph: 99874391 M: 0409655469 E: [andrew@stjohnsasquith.org.au](mailto:andrew@stjohnsasquith.org.au) [Day off: Thursday]

**Student Minister:** Jonathan Cole Email: [jonathan@stjohnsasquith.org.au](mailto:jonathan@stjohnsasquith.org.au)

**Parish Administrative Assistant:** Jenny Clarke (Mon, Wed & Fri) Ph: 94823282 E: [office@stjohnsasquith.org.au](mailto:office@stjohnsasquith.org.au)

**Parish Nurse:** Sue Lovegrove: 9477 2662

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# St JOHN'S FAMILY BULLETIN

15 MARCH 2009

ANGLICAN PARISH OF ASQUITH / MT COLAH / MT KURING-GAI



## It's true, God hates religion!

You might wonder "How on earth God could hate religion? Ridiculous! God loves religion. GOD IS RELIGION! Or at least He's completely in favour of it... surely? Saying that 'God hates religion' seems like talk of 'Peace keeping Missiles' or 'Cold heat'.

## Impressive contradictions designed to catch our attention.

**But its true, God does hate religion.** And the reason is that **religion is not relationship.** Religion is all about us trying to impress God with large buildings, sacrifices, good works and inspirational cultural achievements. But, and this may be hard to hear, God's just not interested in us impressing him.

**The reason isn't that surprising** when you think about it. It's simply that, whilst human achievements might be truly wonderful, our hearts aren't. In fact, the human heart is dreadful.

**You see, Religion is like washing** your hands to clean your heart – hopeless window dressing. You may as well put a band aid on cancer! And God hates that we do it. He hates that we pretend that religion is the answer. In the Bible God says, "They worship me in vain; their teachings are but rules taught by men."

**What God wants is relationship.** Not on our terms with our rules and rituals. He doesn't want us to **do** something to establish relationship with him. No, He's **done** what needs to be done. You could say, God's already done the *religious thing*. He sent his son Jesus to die on the cross to pay for our sin so that we can have friendship with him.

**One way of thinking about this** is that Religion is what we try to **do** to please God whereas Jesus' death and resurrection is what God has already **done** that saves us.

## So, how can you respond to what God has done?

In prayer:

**Dear God, thank you for sending Jesus to save me. Please forgive me and help me now to live with you in real relationship.**

Outreach Media Posters

## BACKYARD BLITZ TIME AGAIN

Our fantastic St John's Backyard Blitz Team will spring into action again. They shall be planting new plants and spread bark chips. Come along and join in the transformation of deserts into wonderful gardens. Lots of helpers needed.

Start at 8.00am—finish at 4.00pm  
this Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> March  
Come when you can and leave when you  
must.

LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED



## FIONA HUNZIKER'S NEW EMAIL

Her new email address is:

[flhunziker@optusnet.com.au](mailto:flhunziker@optusnet.com.au)

Please update your St John's Directory & your email address book.

## EASTER LEAFLET DELIVERY

This year we are wanting to go out together to deliver the leaflets.



Some people may care to knock on doors, others will just put the leaflets in letterboxes. Either way **we will be gathering on Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> March and Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> March at the church at 2pm.** We will pray briefly and then go out. We will return at 4.15pm and

debrief and again pray. We hope you will be able to join us.

In addition we will be handing out leaflets at train stations.

If you can't, of course you can deliver your leaflets at other times.



## MISSION AID GROUP — 'MAG'

Our MAG item in MARCH:

**WHITE COTTON THREAD (new)**



Our MAG for KIDS:

**PENCILS (with or without rubbers)  
+ PENCIL SHARPENERS**



Please place your gifts in the MAG boxes. THANK YOU!



## MARCH IS BCA BOX OPENING MONTH

Once again, it is time for the BCA boxes to be opened. It would be very helpful if holders could either:-

- ◆ Place the box in the BCA Bin in the Atrium
- ◆ Hand the box to Don Lamb
- ◆ Give Don a call on 9476 3803 to arrange for collection



If you require a **tax deductible receipt**, please talk to Don for details. Please contact Don, if you would like a box in which to put your spare change. Remember it will help further the work of our link missionaries, **Mike & Chantelle Keith at Lightning Ridge** and Christian ministry in remote areas of Australia.

## OFFERTORIES 8 MARCH 2009

*[For Electronic Giving the Account details are as follows:-  
Asquith Parish General Fund BSB 062-106 Account 00900612]*  
Incomes: \$2,008.50 (General) + \$1,330.00 (Electronic)  
+ \$150.00 (Ministry Fund) + \$170.00 (Building Fund) = **\$3,658.50**  
(Combined Weekly Budget: \$5,304.00)

\*\*\*\* **SHORTFALL at week 10: \$6,156.90**

## BLOKES' CHURCH

Yes it's on again

- What is it:** A church service for Blokes.
- When :** 5<sup>th</sup> April, 12.30pm for lunch 1.30pm for the service.
- Where :** This time, at **St Mark's Berowra**, 18 Berowra Waters Road, Berowra.
- Why :** To provide a forum for Christian blokes to get together and encourage, support and share with each other. Details are still being worked out however it looks as though a mission team from Moore College will be attending and will be contributing to the service. So, a great opportunity to invite your mates who may find 'Church' a bit threatening.

More information can be found at:

[www.waitara.anglican.asn.au/blokes/](http://www.waitara.anglican.asn.au/blokes/)

or speak to **Daryl Gilbert**

**If you're a bloke, you should be there!**

## SAFE MINISTRY TO CHILDREN TRAINING COURSES

First training day:

**Saturday, 4<sup>th</sup> April** at St John's 1.00pm to 5.00pm

Refresher Training Course:

**Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> May** at St John's 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm

See **Marion Wright** (or phone 9476 2232) to find out which course is best for you. Or email: [denis@datawright.com.au](mailto:denis@datawright.com.au)

## HORNSBY-BEROWRA MEN'S SHED RECEIVES \$4,500 GRANT

The **Hornsby-Berowra Men's Shed** has received a NSW Government grant of \$4,500 to be spent on equipment.

This association currently has a membership of 22 men, more than half of whom are St John's parishioners.

The aims of Men's Sheds include promotion of physical, mental and spiritual health in men by engaging them in manual projects for the benefit of the wider community.

In particular, retirees, retrenched and unemployed youth are within the target demographic.

Anyone interested in joining the Hornsby-Berowra Men's Shed should contact:

**David Gillan, Roy Artist,  
Lyll Pogue or Brian Pearson**

- or send an email to:

[hornsbby-berowra-mens-shed@googlegroups.com](mailto:hornsbby-berowra-mens-shed@googlegroups.com)

