

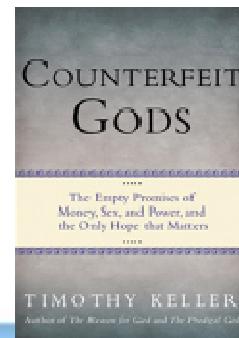
# Book of the Month

## COUNTERFEIT GODS by Timothy Keller

Cost: \$ 16.95

Tim Keller knows how to tell a Bible story. Like *The Prodigal God* before it, his latest book, *Counterfeit Gods* is built around them. And every time I read one of those stories, I feel like I am hearing it for the first time. I find myself lost in the story, anticipating how it could, how it might, end. In the back of my mind I know exactly how it will turn out, but somehow Keller takes me along for a ride as he tells these stories in such a fresh way. In *Counterfeit Gods* he tells of Abraham and Isaac, Jacob and Esau, Jonah and Zacchaeus. Each one of these characters and the stories of their lives are used to teach the reader about the prevalence of idolatry in the Bible and in the human heart.

*Review by Tim Challies*



Your monthly update on what Matters at St Matt's.  
Reflecting the generosity  
of Christ in and to our community.

June / July

2010



## St Matt's Services

Sunday 8am	Morning Prayer / Holy Communion
Sunday 9am	St Matts @ School; WPH Public School
Sunday 10am	Multi Generational Family Service
Sunday 9.45am	Chinese Service; Cherrybrook Public School
Sunday 11.15am	Asian Congregation; Cherrybrook Public School
Sunday 5pm	Contemporary Service
Sunday 7pm	Contemporary Service
Wednesday 10.30am	Traditional Anglican Service

## Ministers - All members of the Congregation

Minister	Steve Abbott	Mobile 0417 410 596	9479 3700
Assistants	Shane Dirks	Associate Minister	9479 3700
	Nerida Peart	Young Adults	9479 3702
	Rob Conway	Youth Minister	9479 3704
	Wendy Estall	Pastoral Care/Seniors Minister Mon - Thurs	9479 3707
	Karen Braga	Pastoral Care/Young Women	0401 933 264
	Kenneth Leung	Chinese Minister	0433 766 211
	Kenny Liew	Minister of Asian Congregation	0448 515 408
	Jacki Hellstrom	Children's Ministry Co-ordinator Tues & Fri	9479 3700
	Tina Piccione	Communications Co-ordinator	9479 3700
Administrator	Kat Butler	Monday-Friday, 9am - 5pm	9479 3700
Organist	David Parsons		9871 8007

## St Matthews Anglican Church

T: 02 9479 3700 F: 02 9479 3777

E: [office@stmatts.org.au](mailto:office@stmatts.org.au) [www.stmatts.org.au](http://www.stmatts.org.au)

## June 2010 Preaching Calendar

6 June	Praying out of Love	Philippians 1:1-11
13 June	Living and Gaining in Christ	Philippians 1:12-30
20 June	Looking to the Interests of Others	Philippians 2:1-11
27 June	Shining for Christ	Philippians 2:12-30

*\* July preaching calendar inside this issue*



If you are feeling new to St Matthews, please fill out a Communication Card found in the church or hall or at the back of the school hall. One of our ministry team will be in contact with you soon. Stay for morning tea/supper after the service to meet others who have made St Matt's their spiritual home.



[www.stmatts.org.au](http://www.stmatts.org.au)

## Pastoral Letter—Steve Abbott

Dear sisters and brothers,

Is it June already? Apparently so. My, how quickly this year has gone by! It has been terrific to watch Nerida, our Young Adults minister hit her straps and already make significant contributions to our community. Also at the beginning of May Shane, Rachel, Levi and Mia Dirks landed on our fair shores and in just a few short weeks have demonstrated a willingness to minister with servant hearts, making a wonderful start at both StMatts@School and the 5pm congregations. Finally, on Monday 31 May, Kat Butler commenced as our office administrator. She comes to us with outstanding references and a mature commitment to both the Christian faith and gospel ministry. She and her husband, Daniel, are involved in the Youth Ministry at St John's Anglican Church Asquith and will continue to be members of that church. We welcome Kat to our staff and look forward to a long and fruitful ministry as part of our team. Tina continues as our one day a week Communications Officer, working closely with Kat. We ought to be very thankful to God for His provision of these new members of staff and keep them in our prayers as they continue to settle into their relatively new roles.

I am pleased to be able to share that we have concluded the fine-tuning of our values and we now have them in a final form, which both staff and Parish Council have agreed to. Two of our members, Rob and Chris McGregor, who are accomplished wordsmiths, have provided some professional feedback and their comments have been incorporated into the final form of the values. One major change has been reducing the number from 8 to 7. The last value, 'Unstinting graciousness in all our relationships' has been assimilated into our third, 'Unreserved commitment to love people impartially'. This makes good sense and the seven remaining values do have a helpful flow and sequence to them. So our values now look like this:

### Our Values

In order to fulfill our vision to '*reflect the generosity of Christ in and to our community*', we at St Matt's commit to live as a congregation of God's people according to the following values:

- Unrelenting prayer to God**
- Undying devotion to the Word of God**
- Unreserved commitment to love people impartially**
- Unquenched heart for evangelism**
- Unfading resolve to mature as Christians**
- Unfailing commitment to work together as a team**
- Untiring determination to train, send and support servants of God.**

Below is the longer statement, which explains each of these seven in more detail and provides biblical foundations for them.

## Our Values Explained

**Unrelenting prayer to God** – Everything we do at St Matt's begins in dependent prayer to the God who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit. In 1 Timothy 2:1-6 the apostle Paul makes prayer the first priority of the Christian community and in doing so brings the church into line with Jesus' own persistent commitment to prayer throughout his earthly life. So we align ourselves with our Lord and his apostle's priority and give ourselves to persistent, prayerful dependence on God (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18).

**Undying devotion to the Word of God** – Everything we do at St Matt's flows from our commitment to live in obedience to the God-breathed Scriptures as contained in the 66 books of the Bible. We believe these provide all we need to be fully furnished for ministry in the world in terms of salvation, right doctrine and right behaviour (2 Timothy 3:15-17).

**Unreserved commitment to love people impartially** – Everything we do at St Matt's is motivated by the compassion and graciousness God showed us in Christ. We love because he first loved us (1 John 4:7-21). The selfless servant love of Christ unites us in a fellowship of faith creating a safe environment and community where everyone is valued and treated with respect and dignity. We want to be courteous and generous in our speech and behaviour, always seeking to encourage and build up, not discourage or tear down. We take every opportunity to connect with grace and care for people with whom we interact (Galatians 6:10).

**Unquenched heart for evangelism** – Everything we do at St Matt's fulfils our intent to bring people to Christ. We believe God's call on our lives is to bridge the gap between the generous God and the bankrupt world of the lost (1 Peter 2:9-12). So we reject complacency and embrace conviction, proclaiming the gospel of the dying and rising Christ Jesus in every circumstance and at every opportunity (2 Timothy 4:1-5). Evangelism involves words and works; therefore we seek to exemplify the transformative power of God's good news, living attractive lives empowered by the Holy Spirit (Philippians 2:14-16). We desire to be a church of irresistible influence for Christ (Matthew 5:13-16).

**Unfading resolve to mature as Christians** – Everything we do at St Matt's reflects our resolve to be disciples who demonstrate our faith in every aspect of our lives. We 'walk the talk' (Matthew 28:18 -20, Colossians 1:28). Our purpose is to ensure our confessions of faith are authentic, matched by our actual practice. Consequently we encourage each other to be reading and applying the Scripture's teaching and morality to every situation in life: relationships, study, career and leisure. We understand this isn't an individual activity but something we do in community, ministering the word of God to one another and spurring each other to live and speak as God intended (Colossians 3:15-17).

**Unfailing commitment to work together as a team** – Everything we do at St Matt's we do interdependently, with patience and a forgiving spirit. The New Testament's teaching about the Body of Christ is taken seriously, so we encourage and equip all Christians to embrace a shared, apprenticeship pattern of service. No one is insignificant. Everyone can contribute, so we endeavour to minister in community with others, not in isolation from them (Ephesians 4:7-16). We also highly value and affirm the significant contribution our members make both in the workplace and the church and this regardless of gender or generation or ethnicity.

**Untiring determination to train, send and support servants of God** – Everything we do at St Matt's seeks to encourage Christians to serve in God's place in God's way. We focus on creating a culture where Christians are given opportunities to mature in their understanding of God's mission in the world while discovering and developing their gifts

(1 Corinthians 12:4-7). We want to be a church known for its encouragement to all members to prayerfully consider exploring and entering Christian ministry wherever the Lord leads. Our resolve will include ongoing spiritual and practical support especially for those who move beyond local ministry.

These, 'Our Values' and 'Values Explained' documents will, in the near future, appear both on our website and be strategically placed around our buildings to be a reminder to ourselves and newcomers what's important to us. I hope that we will all seek to commit these values to memory even if it's just the key words: Prayer, Word, Love, Evangelism, Mature, Team and Train/Send/Support. My prayer and hope is that these seven values will become , if they are not already, second nature to us. Our values should shape our culture. Values are also a filter for assisting the church's leadership to make decisions and prioritise the church's ministry and budgets.

To all those who have contributed to the process of shaping and editing these biblical values I express a deep gratitude. I believe these seven fundamental Scriptural values will be a great help to us as we move forward to become all that God wants us to be in Christ, and His ambassadors in West Pennant Hills and beyond. I commend these values to us all and encourage us to make them not just words on paper, wall and website, but qualities and practices which profoundly shape who we are and what we do. I for one will, with the help of the Holy Spirit, strive to make it so.

In fellowship,

*Steve Abbott*



**Steve's Prayer Points:**

- Thank God for the appointment this year of excellent staff: Nerida, the Dirks Family and Kat Butler our new Office Administrator/Bookkeeper.
- Praise God for the many people who responded to the gospel at our events in May.
- For many people who are attending the various Christianity Explored Groups across the parish in mid June- August or are reading the Bible and/or Christian literature, that they will all come to mature faith in Christ and become effective members of His Church.
- For clear messages to be prepared and preached from Philippians by staff and guest preachers in June and July.
- For Kat Butler as she settles into her office administrator/bookkeeper role and gets her head around the many comings and goings of a busy church like St Matt's.
- Pray for all the staff as we gather for our two-day retreat in the Southern Highlands and pray that I will provide helpful and gracious leadership – June 21-22.
- For my Home Group Training preparation and presentation on Saturday 3 July.
- Thank God that Sue is really enjoying her new role as a Medical Receptionist for an Obstetrician/ Gynecologist at the SAN Medical Clinic on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and pray that she will be a faithful witness in all she does.

# St Matt's Diary and Notes



## SECOND SUNDAY POTLUCK LUNCH 13 JUNE & 11 JULY 12.30—2.30pm:

If you usually eat alone on a Sunday and wish to join with others for lunch and fellowship, you are invited to our 'Second Sunday Potluck Lunch' in

NewLine Cottage. Tea and coffee will be supplied and it would be appreciated if you could bring finger food to share.

Further details:

Pattie Mutton (9484 0174) or  
Pat Gould (9868 4630).

## 3 CHORAL EVENSONGS With the St Matthews Singers

Sunday 2.30pm followed by afternoon tea

Diarise the following dates:

- Sunday 20 June
- Sunday 18 July
- Sunday 15 August

## Everyone Welcome!

Calling all women!

### Come to the **Oasis**

Mary Andrews College Conference  
**June 25-27** at The Collaroy Centre.  
A weekend of great Bible teaching, helpful workshops and refreshment

for the journey. Cost \$210 pp

Bookings close Tuesday June 15.

Why not get a group together?

To register or for more information

call 9569 2418 or go to

[www.mac.edu.au/2010Conference](http://www.mac.edu.au/2010Conference)

Pick up a brochure at church today

## MISSION AID GROUP (MAG)

Once again thank you for all the donations during May. We, and the people at MAG, are very appreciative of them. A few suggestions for June

are: Melamine trays and bowls, etc (quite cheap at GoLo), new tennis, soccer or net balls, items such as singlets, booties, baby soap, washers or knitted matinee jackets which all go into baby packs for newborns. Thank you again for your continued interest.

Roslyn Dearden.

## STAFF RETREAT JUNE 2010

The St Matt's staff will be on a 2 day retreat, 21 and 22 June. Please pray for the team as they share together, reflect on the first 6 months of 2010 and plan for the next 6 months.

**WORKING BEE DATES FOR 2010**  
A reminder of the working bee dates for this year. We appreciate any help on these mornings, so please join us in keeping St Matt's in shape!

- 26th June
- 14th August and
- 20th November



## ST JOHNS FIRST AID TRAINING

We are holding a session on 12 June at St Andrew's House - this will be the final session for 2010 (but we are planning more for next year).

If you wish to attend this training session, or if you know of any parishioners who may wish to train this year, could you please contact the office at St Matt's for a rego form. This course is limited to 24 (maximum), so registration will be based on the order of receipt of the application form.

# WINTER CAMPS



Choose from 16 action-packed, week long CRU Camps for kids in school years 3-12 these winter holidays. Activities include: skiing >laser skirmish >theme nights >abseiling >rock climbing >snow

For a free brochure & more info visit: [www.cruacamps.com.au](http://www.cruacamps.com.au) or call 02 9874 8933

## April 2010 Feedback



### NEXT MATT\$4KIDS

Monday 19 July 2010  
**Rego forms will be available soon!**

Matts4Kids was a very encouraging experience for the leaders and enjoyable for the children who came. As a leader it was wonderful seeing them all get so involved and excited about praising God when we sang. We experienced exactly what Psalm 8:2 says about our all powerful God: 'From the lips of children and infants you have ordained praise.'

During the day we did several very fun activities that the kids really enjoyed, had a very scrummy morning tea and lunch, sang lots of songs, and heard some interesting talks. We were able to communicate with the children well and even in the Kindy children we could see the message of Jesus being sown.

*Allie Mead*

### Children's Ministry Vacancies

We are in need of someone who would like to teach Scripture to 14 Kindy kids on Fridays at Cherrybrook Public School @ 11.20am. Jacki is currently teaching this group but would be delighted to hand over to someone else so she can be freed up to do other strategic children's ministry.

**Children are the future of the youth groups and our church family.**

**Let's get involved with them and their families.**

### Pennant Hills & Cherrybrook Christian Education Association Financial Appeal 2010/11

Christian Studies in local high schools is a gracious provision from God This ensures that local youth are taught the eternal truths of God, salvation forgiveness of sin. PHCCEA's annual budget for 2010/11 is \$238 000. Approximately 95% of this is used to cover teachers' salaries and superannuation. The rest of the expenses such as insurance and resources.

We are hoping to raise \$ 100,000 of this before the start of the financial year. Would you help us?

Contributions can be made in cash, cheque or direct debit. Envelopes are available in the foyer or direct debits can be made to:

PHCCEA  
BSB 062 225  
Account Number 0090 3146

We also need your prayers for this most important ministry. Together we can help to keep a quality Christian Education program in our local high schools.

Rev. Gav Poole

# St Matts @ School

## Connecting      Encouraging      Growing

We are all thankful for the long awaited arrival of Shane and his family and are already appreciating the opportunities to get to know him and Rachel, Levi and Mia. Shane's enthusiasm and passion for communicating the Gospel and sharing Christ's love with others has already been gratefully appreciated and we look forward to growing together in Christ under his leadership with the Holy Spirit's enabling. A big 'thank you' to Steve and Sue Abbott for their support in the interim period, as we awaited Shane's arrival.

During the interim period, the ongoing commitment of all those on rosters (which is most of the congregation!) has also been deeply appreciated. The willingness and cooperation of everyone to run a service off site continues to foster the development of relationships and involvement in serving one another.

During this time West Pennant Hills Public School has also been undergoing renovations, which has often meant weekly changes to the location of the Children's Ministry programs. We are grateful for the cooperation of the school in this busy time and the flexibility of our Children's Ministry leaders.

A big thank you to all those people who volunteered to help out at the school working bee, as this provided a great opportunity to witness to those who don't know Christ, whilst having a positive impact on the school surrounds. It also demonstrates that StMatts@School is an integral part of the wider school community.

We look forward to moving forward as we connect and share Jesus with those in the school and immediate community who do not know Him yet.

### **STAFF SNAPSHOT—Rev. Shane Dirks**

Time and again Shane has been told he is 'outside of the mould of an Anglican Minister'. Perhaps it is his lack of a university degree, his previous vocation in sales (including 4 years as a Car Salesman), a brief period as an apprentice electrician, a nominal Roman Catholic upbringing, and a background in sports such as sprint cycling and one bodybuilding competition that promotes this statement. The truth is though, Shane is a normal guy married to Rachel and father to Levi (4) and Mia (1), and the 'mould' (if it exists) is a load of junk! Jesus takes all types!

Shane has been a Christian since his conversion at a lunchtime group in his final year of high school in Merrylands. He graduated from Moore Theological College in 2006 with a Bachelor of Divinity, and a Diploma in Ministry. He is currently studying through Moore to complete his Master of Arts (theol.). Shane loves that Jesus owns him, loves that Jesus has saved him, loves to tell others about the 'God who justifies the ungodly' (Rom 4:5). One area of theology that Shane particularly enjoys is Christian ethics.

Shane continues to enjoy time in the gym, playing with his family, and that special time late on a Sunday evening when he gets to watch Formula 1 motor racing.



# Monthly Bulletin

# St Matt's youth update

The past Month has been another exciting month at St Matt's Youth.

Give thanks for camp TMF on the ANZAC day weekend. 150 kids attended (Biggest TMF yet), and it proved to be another really encouraging time for all the kids and leaders.

***Praise God for Brad Smithson, Jono Sparks and all the other leaders who played important roles in the running of the camp.***



Praise God for Ross Ciano and John French who both spoke really well from Matthew's Gospel.

Currently there are approximately 190 youth attending youth group each Friday night (Biggest Number ever), and around 20 kids on Sunday mornings.

With such large numbers please pray for Rob and the leaders, and pray for the consideration of further staffing for the youth ministry in 2011 and beyond.

## *Upcoming Youth Events:*

Please be praying and keeping an eye out for:

<b>Coast EC Forster Mission</b>	3-8 July
<b>Baptism Service</b>	18 July (For Confirmationees)
<b>Confirmation Camp</b>	6-8 August
<b>Confirmation Service</b>	8 August
<b>Camp 78</b>	10-12 September

Please pray for the team who will be going up to Forster in the July holidays to run and kids and youth club at COAST Evangelical Church.

This team will be led by Rob Conway and Chris Jones. 12 St Matt's Youth will be giving up their time to spread the Gospel and encourage Chris Ekins' Ministry at Forster.

For term plans, camp forms and any further info please check [youth.stmatts.org.au](http://youth.stmatts.org.au) or contact Rob Conway at [rconway.stmatts.org.au](mailto:rconway.stmatts.org.au).

## SMAC CAMP report

In April, we had our St Matthews Asian Congregation's (SMAC) annual camp, and this year we decided to adventure to a new campsite in Long Point. It was a much bigger campsite than we were all used to and people were still getting lost on the last day! This year, we studied the book of 1 Samuel, about the God of the upside down. Our guest speaker Ben Ho taught us how God works in the most unexpected ways and, in the end, Jesus is our one and true King. In the mornings, we had discussion groups where we were challenged to apply this truth to lives in different daily situations.

Throughout the weekend there were plenty of opportunities to get to know each other better. On Saturday afternoon, during our compulsory fun time where we had a congregation-wide Ultimate Frisbee game and discovered the future Australian Ultimate Frisbee team to compete in the 2016 Olympics in Brazil (once Ultimate Frisbee becomes an official Olympics sport). On Saturday night, a royal festival was held where we had visiting kings, jesters, lots of princesses and even a cyborg builder. By the end of the weekend, we were all experts in the book of 1 Samuel, and the only disappointment was that no one wanted to go home.



# Pastoral Care and Seniors' Ministry

June 2010

**Pastoral Care Ministry**



In order to better equip our members when caring for those who are experiencing dementia, an evening was held on 10 May at 7.30pm. The purpose of the evening was to raise awareness of dementia, to explore how it impacts on the lives of people and their carers and then to discover how to spiritually care for and minister to the person through the various stages of the disease. The evening was well attended with 31 people participating and representative of most congregations. Throughout the year, we plan to have similar evenings designed to help those in ministry care for others. Other possible evenings may include, 'Understanding the Impact of Loss and Ministering through Grief', 'Caring for those Experiencing Depression' or, 'Rising above Low Self Esteem'.

## Orana

Shane Dirks, our new Associate Minister, will be our guest speaker at the 7<sup>th</sup> July meeting. Shane will share with us his story that has ultimately led him to ministry among us 'From Pride to Peace'.

## Lay Pastors/Pastoral Carers

The recent encouragement night which was held on 10 May, was an opportunity for Carers and others to meet together, to learn and to fellowship. A special night will be set aside in the next few months for those Lay Pastors and Carers to come together to support and pray for each other.

## Meals Ministry

The meals ministry continues to be a wonderful ministry of practical care. Thank you to those who have worked tirelessly in preparing meals and/or delivering them. Due to the increase in need over the past few weeks, we have been in short supply of meals. Anyone who would like to prepare a meal and bring this to our freezer is invited to do so. Please place the meal in a foil carton, labelled with ingredients, date and name of person who cooked the meal and how many people it is intended for. For further details please phone Fiona Mead on 9875 3069.

## Wendy Estall's Prayer Requests:

- ♦ Please pray for protection of our seniors from flu and other ills, during the winter months, particularly those frail and isolated.
- ♦ Please pray that God will bless the seniors pastoral care ministries including Orana, Lay Pastors and Carers, Meals Ministry, Hesed, intercessory Prayer Network, the Church Missionary Society's Mission Aid Group (MAG).
- ♦ Please pray that God will draw unsaved seniors to accept invitations to attend our ministry programs

# St Matt's Chinese & Asian Church Camp 9 – 11 April 2010

We had a wonderful time at the church camp at Stanwell Tops. Everything at the camp site was so organised and tidy. We had our own block of accommodation with two meeting places provided. The weather during those few days was just fantastic which added to the joy of the stay.

Of course, we have to thank the camp committee for their hard work and also the effective and efficient work of the young people who put great effort into making the camp so successful. It was a great opportunity for us to get to know each other better, especially when there were a few people who were new to the church.

We invited Rev Sam Chan to speak to us on the topic of “growth in God’s word.” He preached powerfully and clearly on the book of Daniel and really gave us a good encouragement in studying the Bible and serving the church. Rev Chan is currently residing in Adelaide and he spends most of his time training church leaders in China and offering training courses to other churches across Australia. He also shared with us on the need of the gospel in China and his experience in reaching out to the Chinese people, especially in the poorer areas.

Apart from studying God’s word together, we also had free time to enjoy the beauty of Stanwell Tops and its surrounding areas. Some went to the beach, some stayed for a quiet walk around the camp site, and some young people had a go on the outdoor setup “Giant Swing” provided by the camp site. One can imagine what the “Giant Swing” was like. Well, you could have got a good idea when you saw some of the faces which were “frozen” after coming down from the swing.

One of the highlight of the camp was the variety show on Saturday night when we were divided into small groups. Each group had to do a special performance of their own and it had to be related to the camp theme “growth in God’s word.” All groups were serious in preparing for their performances and the seriousness finally made way to lots of fun and laughter. After seeing all the performances, we had to admit that God is so amazing in creating people of different styles and gifts. It was wonderful to see that we were just like a big family enjoying our fellowship together.

We really have to give thanks for the success of this camp due to the hard work and co-operation of all brothers and sisters, and of course, to the providence of our gracious Father.

我們在Stanwell Tops渡過一個很愉快的教會營。那裏的營地非常清潔整齊。我們有自己獨立的一座宿舍和兩個聚會的地方。這幾天的天氣非常之美麗，倍添我們在營會中的喜樂。

當然我們要多謝教會營籌委會的辛勞，及一班年青人所付出的努力，以致今次營會舉辦得非常成功。這是一個很好的機會讓我們可以更認識大家，特別今次有多位新到教會的朋友參加。

我們邀請了陳廷倫牧師分享今年的主題 “茁壯成長。” 他有力及清楚地傳講「但以理書」的信息，亦給了我們很好的鼓勵去研讀聖經及服事教會。陳牧師現在居於Adelaide，而他大部份時間是在訓練中國的教會領袖及提供訓練課程給澳洲的教會。他亦與我們分享中國對福音的需要及他接觸中國民眾的經歷，特別在那些貧窮的地方。

除了一起研讀神的說話，我們亦有自由時間去享受Stanwell Tops及其周圍環境的美麗。有些弟兄姊妹參觀沙灘，有些在營地漫步，及有些年青人嘗試營地的戶外活動 “巨型鞦韆。” 只要你看一看那些玩完鞦韆的人，他們僵硬的面部表情，你便可以想像得到玩這 “巨型鞦韆” 是怎樣的滋味。

星期六晚的綜合晚會是營會其中最精采節目之一。我們分為不同小組，而每小組要預備一個特別表演節目是與營會主題 “茁壯成長” 有關。所有小組都認真預備它們的表演，而它們的認真帶來不少樂趣與歡笑。觀看完所有表演，我們真要承認神創造各類的人，有不同風格及恩賜，實在太奇妙了。看到我們一起如同一個大家庭享受當中的團契，實在值得感恩。我們真要為這次的營會獻上感謝，全因為各弟兄姊妹的辛勤及合作，亦當然因為我們恩慈天父的供應。

## ***Kenneth's Prayer points:***

- ◆ Pray for our 2 year Bible reading plan that brothers and sisters will continue to read the Bible and grow in God's word together
- ◆ Pray for Jeannie & Yuki and Winnie & Patrick that God will bless them with peace and joy as they are expecting to give birth to their babies soon
- ◆ Pray for the Mandarin Bible study group members that they will enjoy their fellowship together

# 60 Seconds with a Warden

Name – John Hadden

Nick Name – Haddo

Married - To Sandra for 23 years



**Children** – Gareth, 19 yrs, studying Criminology at UNSW

Natalie, 16yrs, Yr 11 at Pennant Hills High School

Courtney, 13Yrs at Pennant Hills High School

**Pets** – “CHIP”, a 7yr old Spoodle.

**Residence**- Grew up in Carlingford, a resident of West Pennant Hills for 23 years.

**Work** – A Carpenter & Joiner by trade, currently working for a Facilities Management Company at Auburn as a National Accounts Manager.

**Food** – A known dessert / sweets lover. Still enjoys a peanut butter & honey sandwich on fresh bread.

**Social Activities** – Enjoys gardening, watching his children play sport, sharing his home with family and friends.

**Found Jesus** – As a 16year-old teenager at Beecroft Uniting Church, praise God that a friend invited me to “Youth Group”

**Christian Music as a Teenager** – PETRA – (Pioneers of Christian Rock 1972-2005) - AWESOME

**Fellowship** – Family has attended St Matt’s for 10yrs, for the past 12 months has worshipped at the 9am service at West Pennant Hills Public School. Leads a Men’s bible study group who gather fortnightly.

**Currently Reading** – Out of the Black Shadows, (Isn’t everybody?)

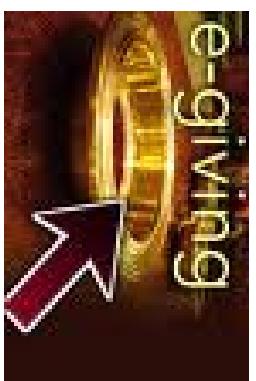
**Words of Encouragement** – Ephesians Chapter 3 Verses 14-21

When I think of all this, I fall to my knees and pray to the Father,<sup>15</sup> the Creator of everything in heaven and on earth.<sup>16</sup> I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources he will empower you with inner strength through his Spirit.<sup>17</sup> Then Christ will make his home in your hearts as you trust in him. Your roots will grow down into God’s love and keep you strong.<sup>18</sup> And may you have the power to understand, as all God’s people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love is.<sup>19</sup> May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God.

<sup>20</sup> Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think.<sup>21</sup> Glory to him in the church and in Christ Jesus through all generations forever and ever! Amen.

## Electronic Giving

The traditional format of an Anglican service, and the usual practice at St Matt's, includes passing around the "plate" during the last hymn or song. If you have attended Anglican services at other churches (and even some St Matt's services), or services at other Christian churches, you might be aware of other practices, such as passing around a plate/bag in silence, without the accompanying music, or putting your contribution into a box at the entrance/exit to the church.



Why do we usually pass around the plate? For many of our members, it is part of their practice of worship, and an essential component of meeting together to praise God. For others, the advantages of giving electronically are sufficient to encourage them to do so. Around 35% of our weekly giving is now done electronically.

What are the advantages of electronic giving?

- Your giving does not depend on your attendance. If you give electronically, it happens 12 months of the year, whether you are on holiday, or visiting elsewhere. This is good for our ability to plan financially as a church.
- Your giving does not depend on having the right number and colour of dollar notes in your wallet/purse. You are able to be prayerfully deliberate and reflective about the amount that you give.

What you do with electronic giving, is simply "instruct" your bank to deposit a certain amount into the church's account, on a regular basis. Most people choose to give monthly. You can select the frequency and amount of your giving, very easily, and to adjust this according to your changed circumstances.

If you want to know more about how to give electronically, there is a brochure available at the back of the church, or you can ask one of the wardens or the treasurer.

*The Wardens and Treasurer  
John Hadden, John Parker, Sue Wright, Colin Gibb*

## FIGURES FOR MAY 2010

**As you can see, St Matt's met it's budget for May 2010, but we are still behind on the budget year to date.**

	2010	2009	2010 Budget
Offerings + Rectory	73,977	65,386	74,000
Weeks	5	5	5
AWG - Current Month (May)	14,795	13,077	14,800
AWG - YTD	14,082	13,281	14,800

# 2010 Make it Count

Mr Rudd and Mr Abbott

Address Christian Voters

What values will define  
the nation after the election?

**the leaders of our two major political  
parties have offered to speak live**

[ via webcast ]



to local churches across the nation

Make sure your church registers for this event

**Monday 21<sup>st</sup> June**  
7:00 - 9:30pm EST

**A unique opportunity**  
to weigh up the major parties' policies  
& to pray as a church for the election

**for more info | [www.australiavotes.org](http://www.australiavotes.org)**

Authorised by Lyne Shellen, 4 Campion St, DENISON ACT 2600



Dear JAAL friends,

We're looking for 2000 or more supporters to wear that familiar JAAL red T-shirt again and hit the streets in the 2010 City2Surf! This year, **Jesus. All About Life** is running for a very pressing need - the urgent "Big Rescue" project from Bible Society.

Earlier this year we sent out a notice to public school Scripture teachers in NSW and ACT, inviting requests for Bibles. Anticipating a need for about 10,000 Bibles, we have instead been **inundated with requests for 70,000!**

It's hard to imagine a more effective or extensive opportunity to proclaim the Gospel, and help **rescue our young people** from a life lacking an understanding of God and His love for them!

**We need your help!** Join two thousand "rescuers and runners" at City2Surf on

**August 8th!**

Log on to <http://city2surf.sunherald.com.au/> to enter the race.

**Bible Society**  
Making the Bible heard since 1817

# Are you needing prayer?

Is your need related to health, a relationship issue, exam worries or teen troubles. Maybe it concerns financial problems, retirement worries or any number of other issues. Is it someone you love who is needing prayer?

St Matts Intercessory Prayer Network (IPN) is ready to help. This network of Intercessors, chosen by the Senior Minister, will pray for you.

Your request will be kept in the strictest confidence and not discussed with anyone, unless it concerns someone at risk.

To access the IPN, you send your prayer request by email to [prayer@stmatts.org.au](mailto:prayer@stmatts.org.au) If you do not have email, you are invited to phone your request to Wendy Estall on 9479 3707 or if the request is urgent, please phone 0437 885 848.

As your need is met, or as changes take place, you are requested to keep the team updated so that prayer remains appropriate and accurate.

At no time will you be approached by team members over prayer issues, other than the Co-ordinator who may contact you to ask for progress reports, or Pastoral staff who may care for you.



[prayer@stmatts.org.au](mailto:prayer@stmatts.org.au)

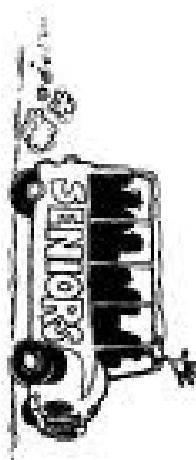
"Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed.

The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective" (James 5:16 NIV).

## ORANA SENIORS FELLOWSHIP

### July Meetings

**We extend a very warm welcome for all to join us at these meetings.**



### 7 July

Shane Dirks, our new Associate Minister, will be our Guest speaker. Shane has a wonderful story to share with us about his journey which ultimately led him to St Matt's and ministry among us.

### An Update...

Our meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> May was an outing to Dural Country Club where we were joined by 31 members for a delicious lunch and an afternoon of wonderful fellowship.

### Pray for those with special needs:

Kia, Jan, Damon, Eileen,  
Dudley, Brian, Judy,  
Moby (Grandson of Keith ),  
Caroline (Betty daughter), Jeannine , Jane ,  
Jill , Kevin , Cliff ,  
Geoff & Margaret, Stan , Bev ,  
Bruce , Rob (Kim father).



# ST MATTH'S MISSION UPDATE

JUNE 2010

Please pray for link missionaries each week. For more information on all of our link missionaries please see the missions page at [www.stmatts.org.au](http://www.stmatts.org.au)  
Pray for organising ongoing mission opportunities in St Matthews now and in the future!

## 6th June - Steve & Melinda McKerney, AFES Perth

- Pray for students as they face 2 weeks of exams.
- Pray that non-Christians will turn to Christ during this stressful time.
- Pray for the Australia-wide AFES Staff Conference June 14-18. Pray for all those giving talks and seminars and that the AFES staff will all be encouraged and challenged.
- Pray for the Perth AFES staff as we prepare lots of material for the Mid Year Conference on 'The Church'. Pray for Steve as he is chairing and coordinating the main sessions.
- Pray for the MCU Committee as we gather for 3 days (21-23 June) on our 'Convergence' to plan and pray for Semester 2.



## 20nd June - Daniel & Dominica Lai, WYCLIFFE

- Pray for the Lai family as they are spread out across the world
- Pray for successful outcomes from Daniel's trips to Kenya, Rwanda, Malaysia and Singapore during March, April and May.
- Pray for Dominica as she cares for her 84 year old mother in Sydney who needs daily dialysis at home.
- Pray for Hannah studying Visual Communications in Hong Kong during her gap year.
- Pray for Nathaniel studying Mechanical Engineering at UNSW.



## 13th June - Lindsay & Lyn Whybrow, BCA Hillston

- Give thanks for the Whybrow's time in Spain with their daughter and her family.
- Give thanks for the recent Teach-in with 18 participants with David Clarke from St Marys Anglican Church, Sydney speaking from Acts.
- Praise for the Children's Mission (Kids Club) led by a team from Hoxton Park Anglican with 32 children registering for a fun week with the a Narnia theme.
- The Hoxton team also helped run a Men's breakfast and a ladies Coffee and Dessert night sharing their faith with the local community.
- Give thanks for the confirmation of church members on April 18th in Griffith, pray for their continuing growth of faith.



## 27th June - Scripture Teachers, Cherrybrook & WPH

- Pray for the current campaign against the Ethics alternative classes in NSW competing with SRE classes.
- Give thanks for all the faithful teachers across 27 classes reaching 550 primary aged children each week.
- Ask God to provide people to fulfil the need for relief teachers.
- Pray that God will bless all the teachers with good health during winter so that their ministry is unhindered.
- Pray for the children with special needs in some of the classes.

# ST MATTS MISSION UPDATE

JULY 2010

Please pray for link missionaries each week. For more information on all of our link missionaries please see the missions page at [www.stmatts.org.au](http://www.stmatts.org.au)  
Pray for organising ongoing mission opportunities in St Matthews now and in the future!

## 4th July - Chris & Sharon Elkins, Coast EC Forster

- Pray for the transition of the regular service time that people will continue to come despite changes
- Praise for new opportunities for members of CoastEC to do pub ministry on Sunday afternoons to the young adults in town; pray for this venture.
- Chris has been invited by the high school principal to make a presentation to the executive at Forster campus. Pray that God will be changing hearts as they are currently opposed to scripture in schools.
- Pray for a new home group commencing in June 20min out of Forster. Pray that many new people will join and grow in their faith.
- Pray for Kids Mission in the July school holidays that a team from St Matt's will be helping to run. Pray that many kids and their families will be linked in with Coast and can hear the gospel.
- Pray for all the pregnant members of the Coast team Sharon, Ange and Heather; for safety and health for them and their babies.



## 18th July - Ian & Ruth Batey, CMS Spain

- Pray for Ruth attempting her practical driving exam
- Pray for the kids as school holidays come up; pray for Samuel's end of year exams.
- Pray that holidays will be a good opportunity for relaxation, continued language learning, homework.
- Ask that God will bless this hot season in Seville and will provide lots of opportunities for Ian & Ruth to be spending time in fellowship with people at church, and other friends and neighbours in the community.
- Give thanks for the past year of ministry the Batey's have spent in Seville; pray for continued ministry and support by locals and others, such as St. Matts.
- Praise God for the upcoming pastoral visit from Jill McGilvray.



## 25th July - Morgan & Anna Powell, SIM Ecuador

- Pray for the Preaching conference coming up in October; pray for the speaker Alex Donnelly, and for the organisation and decisions on topics and programs and that many pastors will attend.
- Pray for team changes over the next few months; 3 families going on home assignment, another family moving back to Australia after 14 years in Loja, and welcoming a new family coming to do medical work and English teaching.
- Ask that God will bless the team retreat 'Spiritual Life Conference' for a refreshing week.
- Pray for the local church and the bible study groups, and that the new team members will be able to take up these ministries and leaders will be raised up to run these groups.
- Pray for important one-on-one fellowship times with church members, and also team roles with Morgan on council and Anna as bookkeeper. Praise God for Anika; pray for healthy growth and bless Morgan and Anna in their role as parents.



# ST MATT'S MISSION UPDATE

## MISSION EVENTS IN AND AROUND ST MATT'S :

### MISSION PRAYER MEETING

Wednesday 7 July, 7.30.

Please come along and join us in the important ministry of praying for mission throughout the world.  
(Mission prayer nights are held the first Wednesday of every month)

### SIMWORLD 2010

Run by SIM on 24 July at Morling College, Macquarie Park, NSW.

For those wanting to find out more about how mission can fit into your life—where ever you are and whatever you're doing. There will be a range of innovative and interactive workshops, a job fair available all day and the opportunity to talk, one on one, with our staff, about your particular interests and to ask questions.

Meet and talk to some missionaries from Africa, Asia or South America in ministry for years. A children's program is available.



*Evangelical Church*

### KIDS AND YOUTH MISSION TO COAST EC, FORSTER

Running from 3<sup>rd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> of July.

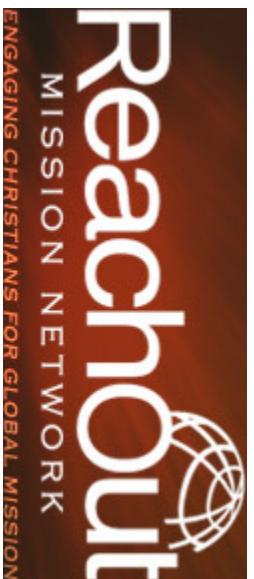
Rob Conway and Chris Jones will be taking a group of youth leaders up to run a daily kids' and youth holiday club mission at Forster for the church and also the wider community.

This program began in 2009 and grew from 3 kids to 30 kids by the end of the week! Pray for finalisation of the team, organising billeting and accommodation, and putting together a kids programme. All resources will be provided from St Matt's end. For more info of Coast Evangelical Church see [www.coastec.net.au](http://www.coastec.net.au)

### REACHOUT 2010 MISSION CONFERENCE

ReachOut 2010 is on 14-15 August @ KCC, Katoomba.

The theme is Lost and Found. Find out about your role in God's plan to tell all nations about the One who FINDS. Speakers include David Cook (Principal of Sydney Missionary and Bible College) and Femi Adeleye (IFES Associate General Secretary for Partnership and Collaboration)



MISSION NETWORK

ENGAGING CHRISTIANS FOR GLOBAL MISSION

*He has showed you, O man,  
what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love*

## Zimbabwe Short Term Mission Trip with Steve Abbott

In 2000 I attended an international Billy Graham Conference in Amsterdam where I met Reuben Zivagwe (picture on left) who was the leader of Living Word Ministries in Zimbabwe. The Living Word ministry continues to exercise a significant holistic gospel work over many parts of Zimbabwe, including the capital Harare, villages and rural areas, although the work's operational base is in Harare. Over the past 10 years as a supporter I have received many invitations to visit their work but have not had opportunity. However, along with 3999 other delegates and with the Wardens and Parish Council's blessings, I will be attending The Third Lausanne Congress on World Evangelization, to be held in Cape Town, South Africa, 16-25 October 2010. Immediately after this I will fly to Harare to conduct a week long (October 25-1 November) information gathering and short-term mission trip with Reuben and The Living Word Ministry.

Over the past 2-3 years, St Matthew's has provided some financial support for this ministry. For example we have recently assisted them in repairing their very tired truck (see picture below) and four of us paid for Emmanuel, Reuben's son to have necessary surgery for which Reuben and his wife Chiedza could not afford to pay. Reuben is very keen to have us come to see their work first hand and provide whatever encouragement we can to their ministry.



Below are some comments he sent me in response to my request about a short-term trip:

### **"WHAT WILL YOU DO?"**

*The primary focus of each project is frontline field evangelism. But we also conduct a lot of discipleship ministry as well. Therefore, we need people who can preach, teach, sing, play instruments, perform on a drama team, conduct Pastors' Conferences, lead soul-winning seminars, work with children and generally be ready to give practical help (e.g. Visit Orphanage - see picture above). If you meet any of the basic qualifications mentioned above, then there is a place for you here. One thing you can be sure of is that you will NOT be sitting around doing nothing.*

I am hoping to be able to have 5-10 people join me in Zimbabwe for this trip. I've been assured that Zimbabwe is actually safer than South Africa due to the very strict regime of President Mugabe within the country. I have lots more details to share but this is not the place to do so. I'm inviting anyone who has even the vaguest interest to come to an information discussion night at my place, 1 Trinity Place, Cherrybrook on Monday 14 June 7.30pm where I will provide more detailed information. If you are planning to come could you please RSVP by email: [sabbott@stmatts.org.au](mailto:sabbott@stmatts.org.au) or call on 9479 3700 and let the office know you are planning to attend. I look forward to seeing you there. If interested but unable to attend please also let me know.

*Steve Abbott*



Whether you are looking for some answers to life's big questions or just interested in the history, the Life of Jesus DVD course will intrigue, entertain and challenge. Join us for this unique opportunity to discover the fascinating figure at the heart of the Christian faith.

**Beginning:** 7.15 – 7.30pm Monday,  
6 August

**Venue:** Castle Towers  
Megaplex Cinemas

**Contact us:** Register by [Clipboard](#)  
or call 9479 3700

[www.lifeofjesus.tv](http://www.lifeofjesus.tv)



The 'Life of Jesus' screening is a great opportunity to invite your sceptical friends. Bring them along where they can listen to and meet John Dixon!

The programme is 90min (5 min intro, DVD 55 min and a 25 min Q & A with John Dixon). This event is free of charge which has been sponsored by the Centre for Public Christianity.

Everyone is Welcome! Come along and be sure to bring a friend!

#### ST MATT's HOUSEKEEPING

##### DID YOU KNOW?

The Weekly Sermons and Bible Studies are now available online at [www.stmatts.org.au](http://www.stmatts.org.au).

If you go to our website, click on Resources on the right hand side, then onto Sermons on the left, you will be able to listen to or download the sermons. The Bible studies, which are written each week by David Hewetson are also available for HOME group training or your own personal study.

##### ST MATT'S COOKBOOKS

The great St Matts cookbooks are still available at \$10 each. If you would like a copy with all St Matts' favourite recipes, visit the book stall after the service

##### LOST PROPERTY

We are continually collecting lost property at St Matt's. It is left in a box next to the big photocopier. If you have left anything behind at church, please collect it from the box, before we give the remaining goods to Anglicare.

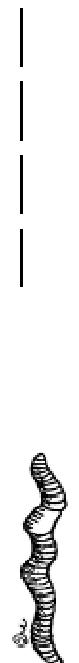
##### ST MATT'S KITCHEN AND FRIDGE

Please could you ensure, after all functions, suppers and teas, that the left-over food is taken home with you. We often have to throw old food or drinks out, as they were left in the fridge and no one knew about it or used it. It has become very wasteful over the last year, so please rather take it home, than have it thrown out.

# GUSS WHO? PUZZLE

Work out the answers to the three clues, then transfer the letters according to the numbers into the circles. Reading from number 1, the letters in the ? will spell out a disciple of Jesus.

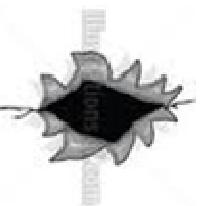
Wriggling bug



— — — —

3 4  
2 5  
1 6  
7 8  
9 10  
11

An opening in anything



— — — —

5 8 7 10

The club used in cricket



— — —

1 2 4

**Bonus disciple's name:** \_\_\_\_\_

## SUDOKU

In this Sudoku, you have to fit the numbers 1 to 6 in each row, each column and in each box.

Hint: Start at the top left box.

4	2				
3	1		2	4	5
6	3				
			6	3	1
	5	3			
			1	5	

## July 2010 Preaching Calendar

4 July	Losing All for Gaining Christ 5 & 7pm From Receiving to Giving	Philippians 3:1-12 Matthew 9:35-10:11
11 July	Going for Goal	Philippians 3:12-4:1
18 July	Rejoicing in the Lord	Philippians 4:1-9
25 July	Contentment in the Lord's Strength	Philippians 4:10-23

### BOOK OF THE MONTH JULY 2010

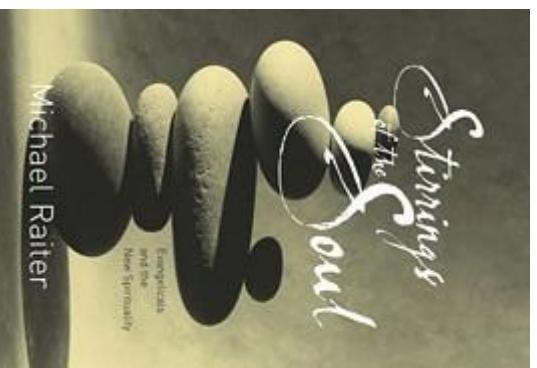
#### Book Review for *Stirrings of the Soul* by Michael Raiter

Cost \$ 16.95

A former missionary in Pakistan and currently head of the Department of Mission at Moore College, Raiter writes to analyse Spirituality in 21st Century Australian culture and offer some guidance as to how Christians, who regard themselves as evangelicals, should respond to the challenges and opportunities it presents.

Starting with the explosion in spirituality in our culture, Raiter first defines spirituality, looking at the rise of contemporary (consumer) spirituality and its innate appeal. He then examines the tradition of spirituality in Christian/Church history, with a particular focus on the Christian mystic tradition and its links to the charismatic movement. The book concludes by seeking to define true Christian spirituality and offers some words of encouragement and counsel to the evangelical culture of which he is a part--Sydney Anglicanism.

Both well researched and written, Raiter successfully balances the difficult task of maintaining an appropriate degree of academic rigour while communicating at a level that the majority of readers can understand and absorb. There is also a refreshing humility -- while critiquing the world around him and highlighting the dangers of Christian traditions, he very helpfully identifies the dangers inherent within his own Sydney Anglican heritage. This critique is very helpful in alerting evangelicals to the ways in which they can rob true Christian spirituality of its vitality and attractiveness to a world that is clearly spiritually hungry and seeking spiritual truth.



BEAR IN MIND MICHAEL RAITER WILL BE AT OUR PARISH CAMP IN AUGUST, SO THIS IS A GREAT TIME TO READ HIS BOOK, IN PREPARATION FOR THE CAMP.

July—Dec Calendar