



WEEKLY NEWS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF
DAPTO ANGLICAN CHURCH

MURDER AND VICTIM (HOOD)

REV. DAVID RIETVELD

Two weeks ago, there was a brutal murder of a gay couple - Jesse Baird and Luke Davies. A 28-year-old police constable, Beau Lamarre-Condon, confessed to the crime and assisted police with their investigations.

It is alleged Beau used his police service revolver to shoot the two victims. It was reported that Beau was a former partner of Jesse, but the exact nature of their relationship status is disputed.

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Last week, the Board of the Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras asked the NSW police not to march in this year's parade. Their statement said, "Our community needs space to grieve the loss of Jesse and Luke, who, before this tragedy, would have been here celebrating with us at the festival." "The board has taken the decision to request that the police do not march in the 2024 Parade." The NSW and federal police have agreed not to march (in uniform). A former director of the Mardi Gras claimed that "Cops marching in Mardi Gras is salt on open wounds."

This is a complex series of events to try to make sense of. Several points are worthy of clarification. First, this was not a crime of gay hate. Rather, it is a crime of jealousy between former 'companions' and a new third party.

Second, the NSW police force has not discriminated against same-sex persons in this incident. They employed Beau, who was of homosexual orientation. And as the NSW premier said: "There are a lot of gay and lesbian police officers who are proud of their profession and proud of their community, and want to march...."

Some in the gay community may join dots between historic police abuse and this latest incident, bringing up feelings of old wounds. Yet there is something deeply ironic about a community that prides itself on being inclusive, as excluding others (some of whom are gay themselves) - others who have clearly done no wrong.

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This week, the plot thickens. The ABC reports, "Australian police forces have a festering domestic violence problem." Is this incident best understood through the lens of DV or LGBTI+ discrimination?

Our culture's moral compass is failing us. We are schooled to spot the victim and then give voice and power. Here we have competing victims and a perpetrator who is a member of a victimised minority and a chastised authority. We have an authority (Police) that has apologised repeatedly, but inclusive gay leaders who seem unwilling to accept an apology and agree to a re-set.

Welcome Samuel and Annabelle

Congratulations to Matt and Lisa Goodman on the joyful arrival of their twins, Samuel and Annabelle! Let us come together in celebration and prayer, wishing for these precious little ones to grow up knowing the love of their Father in Heaven. May the Goodman family smoothly adjust to their new dynamic as a family of six. Praise God!



CHRIST FOR THE COAST

Please be praying for Dapto Youth, as they head to Christ for the Coast this Friday. Pray for all the youth in the Illawarra who will hear about how amazing Jesus is!

If you have a youth who is interested in attending or have any questions, please email Nathan at nathan@daptoanglican.org.au



REGO NOW

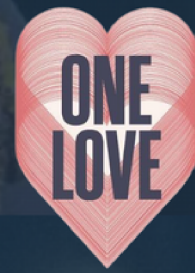
WOLLONGONG WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

A great day of teaching,
music, food and friendship!

TGC

Saturday 25th May
9:30am - 3:30pm

Speaker: Grace Jones
Figtree Anglican Church



A one-day conference to inspire
women through preaching,
testimony and fellowship.



Saturday 24th August, 2024
9:30am - 4:00pm

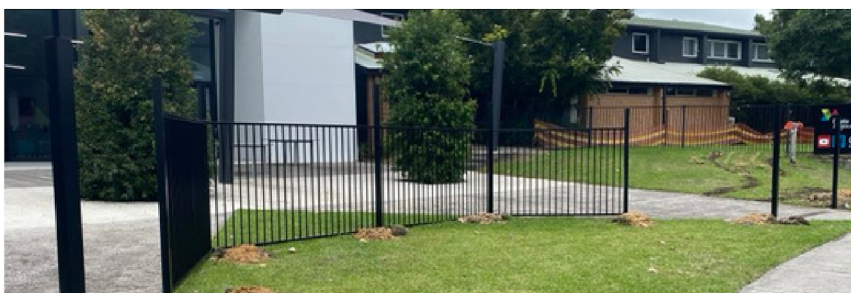
Speaker: Blair Linne
Hillsong Convention Centre

AGM 2024

Our Annual General Meeting for 2024 is quickly approaching! We would love for you to join us on Tuesday, the 19th of March, at 7pm, as we gather together as God's people and vote on important matters within our church.

Hot Cross Buns Fundraiser

Please help support High School SRE and it's ministry by donating to the Dapto Schools Scripture Board this Easter. Give a donation of \$10 and we will give you a pack of 6 Hot Cross Buns! See the Church Office, or the Connection Desk at our Sunday services, for a form.



Fence

Along side our freshly growing grass, is the start of our fence instillation. It's getting exciting!

Join us for our Easter Services

Tenebrae

Thursday 28th March
7:30pm, St Luke's Brownsville

Good Friday

Friday 29th March
9am, The Ministry Centre

Easter Sunday

Sunday 31st March
8am, Communion Service
10am, Family Service
6pm, Contemporary Service

BCA Boxes



We are almost in the month of March, which means it's time once again to bring in your BCA boxes so that the money may be counted and sent off to the Bush Church Aid. We encourage you to drop off your boxes at the church office so that they may be counted and sent off. A big thank you to Ron and Maureen, who volunteer their time to make this happen.

SAFE MINISTRY

Dapto Anglican Church is committed to Safe Ministry Practices. If you have a question or concern, we are here to help.

Please contact:

- Julie Houghton, Parish Safe Ministry Representative, by confidential email safeministry@daptoanglican.org.au or through our church office on 42611001
- Anglican Abuse Report line on 1800 774945



PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Dear Lord Jesus, in this period of Lent, help us to open our hearts to you in new ways. Help us to identify the weak the areas of our life in which we might fail you when we are challenges or tempted. Help us to want to live holy and righteous lives. Refine our desires and ambitions then give us your strength to live as children of the light. In your holy name, Amen.

PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

EXPECTANT PARENTS

Katie and Phil C.

HOSPITAL

Please pray for Ray G (8am) who is in hospital and is quite unwell. Please continue to pray for Allan C (8am) who is still in rehab in Wollongong Hospital. Please pray for Brian L (2pm) who is in hospital with respiratory problems.

VILLAGES/NURSING HOMES

Please continue to pray for our people in Residential Care Homes: Jean W, Kath H, Phyllis D, Audrey & Alan R (please continue to pray for Audrey who is still recovering from her fall and has a broken arm, a broken nose, and bruising on her face), Gae & Allen Q, Elsie N, Barbara L, Pamela B, Gordon M, Beth W, Betty B (Piper House, Dapto); Robyn K (Digger's Rest, Corrimal); Helen S (Marco Polo, Unanderra); Ella H, Trevor W (Warrigal Care, A.P.); Wendye C, Helen K (Farmborough Uniting, Unanderra); Cheryl T (Hammond Care, Horsley); Graham S (The Links, Wollongong).

8AM / WED 2PM

Please pray for Mavis B who is recovering at home after being in hospital. Also, please continue to pray for Mavis's daughter-in-law, who has started Chemotherapy. Please continue to pray for Jill S who is recovering slowly and she wants to thank you all for your prayers. Also, please pray for Deb P's brother who is very unwell with Cancer.

10AM

Please pray for Barbara H who has had corrective surgery to a previous implant on her shoulder. Also, please continue to pray for Andy H that his hand will heal following a severe laceration and surgery. Also, please continue to pray for Ruby D who is still struggling with pain due to two bulging discs; Also, please continue to pray for Andrew W and his health issues.

6PM

Please pray for Anna P who will be having surgery very soon.

CAFE CHURCH/CREATIVE CONNECTION

Please continue to pray for Lynne N and her family with health problems.