

CARPENTARIA PRESBYTERY

Link



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UCA Queensland Synod

Corona-virus Update

For the latest COVID-19 updates and resources, visit the [Synod website](#).

Pastoral Notes Celebrations & Prayer Points

Please Pray For:

1. Garry & Teresa Hardingham for wisdom, discernment, easy solutions to difficult issues & safety as he travels around our Presbytery.
2. Christy & Peter Allen & family, for wisdom, discernment, easy solutions to difficult issues & safety as she travels around our Presbytery.
3. Ps Gewa & Cynthia Au (Morningson Is), she is struggling with some health issues.

Monday Prayer:

God of great hope we thank you this Easter that through the sacrifice of one we can see redemption for all, through the resurrection glory we are set free for new beginnings & through infinite love we find our purpose as your loved children. May we continually offer our praises to you this Easter, Alleluia, Christ is Risen. Amen

Moderator Andrew Gunton

Carpentaria Presbytery Meeting 14-16th May Registrations Open

<https://www.ucacarpentaria.com.au/event/signup.php?id=40>

Remember all congregations have their ministry agent & 1Rep.

Others may come as observers, they cannot vote. As an extra you or your congregation is responsible for all payments.

Free Community Training

April

Great opportunity for vital training in **Cairns / Innisfail / Port Douglas-Mossman** for Community Disaster Recovery . *Registration as below. (limited numbers)*

Cairns 20-21 April 2021, 9am - 5pm Register: <https://lifelinecairns.eventbrite.com.au>

Innisfail 21-22 April 2021, 9am - 5pm Register: <https://lifelineinnisfail.eventbrite.com.au>

Port Douglas 22-23 April 2021, 9am - 5pm Register: <https://lifelineportdouglas.eventbrite.com.au>

10 April

Townsville

Lawn Bowls Jubilee Bowls Club

Date: 10 April 2021 **Time:** 7.45am for 8.00am start

Cost: \$20 (Green Fees & Donation)



Immediately After The Game

Morning Tea and Trophy Presentation @ **Aitkenvale Uniting Church**

To assist the bowls club with preparation and for catering purposes please if possible advise by Thursday if you are attending otherwise just arrive.

Contact: Kay Ph: 0409892795 Email: wazz.kay@bigpond.net.au

All proceeds to McKay Patrol

Join us and continue the good work done by Roy Backer for so many years

Thursday 24th June & 1st July

Lend a handBecome a pastoral care volunteer



Do you want to become equipped with the skills to provide pastoral care & support to people in your church & local community?

The **Volunteers CARE Essentials Course** is a basic introduction to Christian pastoral care where you will learn the foundational skills needed to get started on your pastoral care journey.

Venue: Mt Louisa Community Church (485 Bayswater Rd, Mt Louisa **Townsville**)

Date: Thursday 24th June & 1st July **Time:** 9an- 5pm

More info contact Jan: topspot88@gmail.com

Register Now: ucaqld.com.au/volunteerscare

Garry's thought

'Now is the winter of our discontent'

This is the first line of Shakespeare's Richard III and it always resonated with me as I reflect on what the Christmas and Easter seasons means for me.

Let me explain.

Living in North Queensland is a unique experience. For those new to the area it can be a somewhat strange experience when it comes to observing the psychology of people around them. There are things that go on and things that just stop in North Queensland due to the combined effect of mango season and cyclone season. Tempers get shorter as the days get longer and the humidity rises. Often brains shut down a bit and the frenetic pace of life subsides for a while...a mango smoothie will do that to you.

Trying to explain to southerners that attempting to fire up the troops when the humidity is over 90% and the temps are in the mid 30's is a pointless task in and of itself. Both Christy and I have, on occasions, rolled our eyes at proposed fantastical programs intended to kick off in February or March. We just shrug our shoulders and think, "Good luck there". Let alone explaining that "Yes, roads up here can be cut not just for an hour or so, but days, weeks and even months." So, chuck in Covid restrictions and you can quickly create a boiling stew of discontent.

Its our own "Wet season of discontent".

And for many North Queenslanders, Easter marks that transition point from wet season to the dry (or less wet) season and coincides with the end of the mango season as well (which I define as Halloween to Easter...its close enough). Its the time when you feel that the cogs of community are starting to grind back to life as airconditioners begin to hum rather than roar and the BOM site gets a lot less hits. Its also a time when many breathe a sigh of relief that their clothes are not drenched with sweat by 9am and nights are actually cool and refreshing and no longer a dark suppressing stew. Yep, for North Queensland, Easter really marks the end of last year and the beginning of a new year.

But, for at least one more week, there is the post Easter pause. This is when many ministers of the church catch their breathe after a busy Easter weekend and chocolate comatosed people munch quietly through those Easter eggs that have ended up in the bottom of the fridge because no-one has the heart to bin them.

Even the common Lectionary has a bit of a holiday as the drama of Easter makes us pause for a few weeks. We get the resurrection on Easter Sunday, followed by doubting Thomas the next Sunday and then Luke's version of this on the third Sunday...all of which occurred on the same day.

So, as we awake from our wet season coma and gear up for the rest of the year, just let this week be a time to reframe your lives. A time to align yourself to the mission and character of Jesus. And a time to reflect on a long, hot, sweaty and reasonably wet wet season and seek God's word as we emerge to face the year ahead.

You know that the famous first line of Richard III should always be read with the second line. "made glorious summer by this sun of York" So, what Richard is saying is that we are now at the depth of the winter but the son of York (Edward) is like the sun of Summer and good times are on the way.

And so for us in North Queensland, we can say “Now is the wet season of our discontent, made glorious dry season by this Son of God.”

Happy Easter everyone. May your emergence from the depths of the wet bring new life and hope to your lives, your ministries and your families.

Blessings.
Garry

