



WEEKLY NEWS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF
DAPTO ANGLICAN CHURCH

AUSTRALIA TALKS

REV DAVID RIETVELD

Melbourne University and the ABC have just surveyed 60 000 Australians on a series of topics, and released the results. Here are a few outcomes that grabbed my attention.

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Gender differences between males and females were clear in the results. Women are more likely to believe in a 'higher power'; to know their neighbours; to cry; to believe their priorities were clarified during COVID; to worry about their financial position now and in the future; and judge the gender gap as larger than do males.

That is quite a list. And there were other contrasts reported I have not mentioned. This is evidence that the female and male brains perceive and process information differently than males. This is evidence that there are discernible patterns of difference between males and females. All of which is being reported by the ABC!

Second, 62% of Australians believe it's appropriate to use the personal pronoun (him, her, they) even if it differs from the gender of biological birth. This is evidence of the shift towards viewing identity as entirely psychological. A person is what they feel. Whereas I contended in the sermon series (as did Audine) that identity is a combination of spiritual, biological, social, and psychological factors.

Third, Australia's social glue is losing its stickiness. Half of the people acknowledge they spend too much time online. Less than half of people (49%) would rather spend time with people than pets. 1/3 of people do not know their neighbours. 94% of people believe misinformation (fake news) is a problem, and 74% of people are finding it harder to know who to trust. This is an indictment of our culture, and an opportunity for Christian community to shine by way of contrast.

cont...



Finally, a few comments about COVID. 1/3 of people report a decline in mental health during COVID. Most people think it will take 12-24 months before things return to some sense of normality. This is another opportunity for the church. These are strange times in which God has called us to live and bear his image.

MISSIONARY UPDATE

Give thanks with Michael and Jo Charles that God's Spirit worked to allow an unexpectedly fulfilling last semester of teaching at CEP despite severe quarantine restrictions and no classes in person. The Charles' plan to return in July.

Praise God that Gary is out of quarantine and home at last! Please continue to pray that the Haddon's may settle as they ease their way into normality.



CELEBRATION OF SERVICE

On Tuesday the 25th we had the privilege of celebrating the 80th Birthday of our longest serving scripture teacher (50+ years), Diana Hunt.

We give thanks to God for Diana and her many years of service in teaching God's word to thousands of children from various schools within the Illawarra.

Happy Birthday, Diana. Thank you again for all that you do and for the blessing you are to Dapto Anglican Church.



DINE AND DISCOVER

You can still spend your \$25 voucher in the Cafe, Monday to Friday, 9am to 2pm.

The Cafe has another special deal, a **5pm sitting on the 9th June**. For just one of your \$25 vouchers you can get a Chicken Parmi & Chips for two people, or Chicken Parmi & Chips, Dessert and a drink for yourself. Booking is essential, call the Cafe on 4260 9278.



WITH THANKS

We continually thank the Lord for our church family. Your prayer support has meant so much to us, especially over these last weeks, when two of Peter's brothers died and taking the two funeral services. We were able with God's grace, to testify that in Christ through his death and resurrection we have forgiveness of sin and a living hope to spend eternal life with him. Peter & Joan Tasker

WOMEN'S WEEKEND

Friday 13th August from 6pm till after Lunch on Sunday 15th August.

Take a weekend out of a busy life to come away with an incredible group of women. Kara Martin will be exploring what whole life discipleship looks like. What does the bible teach us about understanding our calling, how do we view our work, the world and worship. Register at dapto.church/womensweekend to come along.

BEST IS YET TO COME

On **Wednesday the 23rd June**, The Best is Yet to Come will be holding a Luncheon in our Main Hall. For \$20 attendees will enjoy a 2-course meal and Wollongong's Citizen of the Year, John Kewa will be joining us as he speaks on his work at Mission to Seafarers. Please let us know if you would like to join us at church office.

Seniors are also invited on a **3 day tour on the 12th October** where they will be staying at Batemans Bay, enjoying a luncheon cruise on the Clyde River, and visiting various gardens and museums, other attractions. For more information please contact Nev or Carol Stumbles on 0421488830 or email nevstumbles@exemail.com.au.



COMING UP

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|----------------------|---|
| Saturday 5th June | Men's Gong Day |
| Wednesday 23rd June | Seniors' Luncheon (The Best is Yet to Come) |
| Friday 13th August | Womens Weekend |
| Tuesday 12th October | The Best is Yet to Come - 3 Day Tour |



PRAYER FOR TODAY

We thank you, God, for implanting in our hearts the fear of God which is the beginning of wisdom. We praise you that you have enabled us to see in your Son Jesus your power and wisdom as well as your love. We pray that by the gift of your Holy Spirit we will continually grow in wisdom so that we will know you better, and that our hearts will be enlightened to grasp more fully the revelation of the hope you have given us in your Son, the rich inheritance we have in him. Help us to live out your wisdom in our daily decisions, and in the words we speak to our families, our friends, our colleagues and all we meet. May our lives shine with the love and wisdom that only you can give. So may we bear witness to your greatness and glory, Father Son and Spirit. In the name of our Saviour we pray. Amen.

PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

PREGNANT WOMEN

Amy S (10am)

VILLAGES/NURSING HOMES

Robyn K (Diggers Rest, Corrimall); Graham S (Estia Health, Figtree); Barbara B (William Beach); Diana M; Kath H; Barbara L; Reg B (all at St.Luke's Village); Helen S (Marco Polo, Unanderra); Ella H (Warrigal Care); Jean D (Farmborough Grove).

8AM/9:30AM/2PM

Lyn R - health problems; Pat W and son, Antony- health issues; Daphne C's neighbour - Leukemia; Daphne C's daughter, Joanne - waiting for results; Mary J - recovering from Bronchitis

10AM

Gwyn D - cancer diagnosis; Paul B - starting dialysis next week; Elizabeth L - slowly improving; Sue B - coping with treatment; Nelson S, Michele S - ongoing conditions and treatments.

7PM

Shaina J's son, Roman - waiting for more tests; Gary M - ongoing health problems.

CAFE CHURCH/CREATIVE CONNECTION

Lynne N - waiting for results; Virginia C - recovering; Blake M (Janelle's 8 year old grandson) chemo for Leukemia.

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

