



WEEKLY NEWS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF
DAPTO ANGLICAN CHURCH

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BRIAN HOUSTON

REV DAVID RIETVELD

Brian Houston's so-called 'fall from grace' is all over the news and social media. It's a sad and embarrassing tale. I shall try to make sense of the incident.

What has he done wrong? In some sense, the answer is that he texted, and imposed himself into the personal space of two women. My read though is that the public is more concerned by other facets of this saga. Brian and Hillsong have failed to disclose, and it looks like another cover-up. Disclose not only Brian's interactions with two women, but his dependence on medication, alcohol, and his mental health struggles. One incident took place a decade ago, and we only hear of it now.

Beyond this, there is another layer of disquiet. Brian is a leader, and we expect more of our leaders. As Christians, we ought to because our leaders and teachers will be judged more harshly (James 3:1). But even in the wider population, we expect more of the sporting captains – think of Tim Paine, the ex-Australian cricket captain.

Another factor is that Brian Houston is a religious leader. In the public shared imagination, religious leaders are all moralists, who believe they have a right to tell others how to live. The average Australian male will tell his mates with some pride and bravado of an interaction with a new female liaison. This is not seen as a sin, but swagger. But when a moralist preacher does this, then it's hypocrisy.

Further, Houston is perceived to be a tall poppy. A self-promoting, arrogant, greedy, success-driven egotist. One who imagines he can rub shoulders with Prime Ministers, and even American Presidents. Australians love to see a tall poppy cut down to size.

Houston's shortcomings will damage the reputation of all churches, not just Hillsong. It's a timely reminder that our leaders are called to exemplify higher standards. To credit the Diocese, all Sydney Anglican clergy are subjected to a lifestyle questionnaire every five years. This is right and proper.

Sin is messy and has consequences. Having said that, Jesus has also paid the price for sin, and the Christian community is to be known as a place of holiness and forgiveness. We are jars of clay, cracked and flawed vessels, but ones that carry and are being reshaped by the Spirit of Christ whom we embody.

Finally, this incident is also a reminder that sin is crouching at everyone's door, not just Cain's (as in Genesis 4:7), or Brian's. But yours and mine, and we must rule over it, lest it devours us.

Kids Ministry Feedback

As part of our time to listen, feedback has come in from many, some face to face, and some in writing. We met with a group that included parents, leaders, and staff. We have distilled the feedback, and noted the priorities. Along with input from the regional children's ministry advisor about the current trends and best practices in kids ministry. Finally, we are in the process of aligning your feedback with DAC mission pathway and discipleship triangle.



There is a feedback session this Sunday after the 10am service. For 15 minutes after the 10am service. David will address families, and share our findings, and future priorities. The children's program will be extended so that parents can remain for the forum.

2022 Annual General Meeting

Our Annual General Meeting is NEXT WEEK, Monday 28th of March, 7pm in the Auditorium. Nomination forms and Finance Reports are available at your services. Prayerfully consider who we'd like to nominate for 2022.

The AGM reports will be emailed out the afternoon of Monday the 28th March, and there will be a limited number of printed copies available at the AGM.

Seniors Lunch

The first Seniors Lunch of 2022 is next week, Wednesday 30th of March. Join us from 12:00pm in the Main Hall of the Ministry Center and hear from Open Doors.

Cost is \$20 per person, there will be clipboards at the 8am and 10am service or you can pay at the office, Monday to Thursday, 9am to 4pm.



OpenDoors

Empty Nesters Outdoor Movie & Dinner Night

Saturday 9th April, from 5:30pm

St Luke's Brownsville

(wet weather Main Hall Ministry Centre)

\$15 per person

for food and drinks

BYO Camp Chairs, Blankets
and Mozzie repellent.

RSVP to Miranda Janszen



CMS Stamps

As you receive your mail, could you cut the stamps from the envelope. Please leave approximately 3 to 5 mm of paper from the envelope around stamp, so that the frilly bit of the stamp is not damaged in any way. However, if the envelopes you have, date back to pre-1940, please do not remove the stamps from these envelopes. The envelopes may have more value than the stamps themselves. Once you have the stamps cut, could you put them into an envelope or a plastic bag, and leave at the church office. These will then be sent to CMS in Sydney. Thank you.

Hot Cross Buns

Dapto School Scripture Board are selling Hot Cross Buns to raise money to Scripture in our Highschools. It's \$8 per packet. Orders are due in by Sunday 3rd April and the buns can be picked up or delivered on Friday 8th April. The order form can be found on the last page of the Newsletter.



Dave's Retirement

When Dave Langley joined the staff team in 2016 he signed up for 3 years as Business Manager. 6 years later, Dave is retiring from his paid ministry role.



Dave has brought many gifts and skills to his role and has supported the congregation, staff team and general public in many ways throughout his time as Business Manager at DAC. It would be difficult to list all of the things Dave does in a day, let alone in 6 years but we know for certain, there's a lot on that list! I'm sure many of you have been told "ask Dave" or at least thought it on countless occasions. We are so thankful for Dave's faithfulness in his ministry and for God's provision. Dave and Sharon will continue to worship at DAC at the 10am service.

We will be celebrating Dave's retirement at the end of March. If you would like to send a message of thanks or support please send your message via office@daptoanglican.org.au. If you would like to contribute financially for gift to thank Dave for his years of faithful service you can drop money into the office or electronic transfer with these details: Acc: Dapto Anglican, BSB: 032686 Acc#: 120002 with the label DAVEGIFT.

SAFE Ministry Training

This Saturday, the 26th of March, from 10am we have Safe Ministry training in the Cafe. The Safe Ministry course is a valuable and necessary way of maintaining the safety of all ministries at DAC. The course, however, is online and may seem daunting and lonely. We are therefore providing an opportunity to do it together. Come at 10am, the course takes 4.5 hours, bring your own device to use and Julie Houghton, Lorraine Miller, and Matt Goodman will be there to offer assistance

PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

PREGNANT COUPLES

Lisa & Michael S; Mel & Michael F.

HOSPITAL

Pray for Trevor W (10am) as he is in hospital waiting to have knee surgery; Continue to pray for Tarj as he is recovering after his accident; Suzanne W (10am) - has been in hospital in East Sydney Private for a knee replacement surgery, now having physio, and sometime today (Thursday) will be transferred to Rehab Private Hospital in Sutherland.

VILLAGES/NURSING HOMES

Please pray for our people in Nursing Homes: Allen & Gae Q; Kath H; Elsie N; Diana M; Barbara L; Reg B (all in Piper House, Dapto); Robyn & Neville K (Digger's Rest, Corrimal); Helen S (Marco Polo, Unanderra); Ella H (Warrigal Care, A.P.); Graham S (Carino Care, Rockdale).

8AM

Wendy R - slowly recovering after her fall; Audrey R - recovering slowly after surgery; Ray McP - recovering slowly; Lyn R - possible surgery in the future. Pray for recovery from her ill health.

10AM

Carl C - will be having eye surgery next week; Amanda - pray for her and her children as they attend court in April for a family matter; Elizabeth L will be having surgery in April; Vince A - pray for healing of the nerve endings in his legs; Mary J's husband, Michael - is recovering after surgery to his leg; Phil P - please pray that he can get an early date for his surgery; Sue B - continue to pray for Sue as she copes with her condition.

6PM

Seb R - continue to pray for healing for his hand; Shaina J's son, Roman - pray for continued healing for him..

CAFE CHURCH/CREATIVE CONNECTION

Lynne N's brother is having immunotherapy infusion for Melanoma and he is going well. Also, her family have all recovered from Covid now and going well.

Continue to pray for the people from our services who have Covid.

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



Easter Services

Tenebrae

7:30pm, Thursday
14th April

St Luke's Anglican
Brownsville

Good Friday

9:00am, Friday
15th April

Ministry Center

Easter Sunday

Sunday
17th April

8am Tradition Service
10am Family Celebration
6pm Evening Church

Ministry Center

EASTER SUNDAY

10am Sunday 17th April
Ministry Center, Moombara St Dapto

Easter Egg Hunt
Jumping Castles
Face Painting
BBQ and Fun Food





Please help **support**
this ministry by ordering some Hot Cross Buns this Easter.

Last day for orders is **Sunday 3rd of April.**

The Hot Cross Buns will be delivered or picked up on
Friday the 8th of April.

1 pkt \$8.00

No orders will be taken without payment.

Name:

Phone:

Type of Easter Bun	Quantity	Cost
Plain Hot Cross Buns		
Totals		