

WEEKLY NEWS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF
DAPTO ANGLICAN CHURCH

WHAT THEY DON'T TEACH YOU ABOUT CHARLES DARWIN

REV DAVID RIETVELD

OFFICE PHONE - 4261 1001

WWW.DAPTO.CHURCH

OFFICE@DAPTOANGLICAN.ORG.AU

PO BOX 25, DAPTO NSW 2530

THE CAFÉ - 4260 9278

Charles Darwin is an early scientist who pioneers research in evolution – right? Wrong!

In the 1800s natural theology was growing and popular. William Buckland, for instance, argued in 1822 that the world was millions of years old. In 1824 he wrote the first full account of a dinosaur. He observed in the Scottish landscape evidence of an Ice Age. Buckland was a lecturer in Geology at Oxford and a clergyman.

He saw no tension between science and religion. On the contrary – he, and many other Christians saw science as natural theology. To study creation was to appreciate the creator – to think God's thoughts after him. Part of how God created, argued Cope – another Clergyman Geologist – was to ordain the evolution of species.

What then was Darwin's contribution? Darwin observed, correctly, that the evolution of species entails the strong overcoming the weak. For Darwin, the natural selection of the strong surviving, rather than the hand of God, was the pattern by which evolution unfolded. All of this sounds scientific. Logical, about facts. Do not be deceived. Here is a quote from Darwin.

"We build asylums for the imbecile, the maimed and the sick; we institute poor-laws; and our medical men exert their utmost skill to save the life of everyone to the last moment." "No one who has attended to the breeding of domestic animals will doubt that must be highly injurious to the race of man."[1]

Darwin theory of natural selection led him to the logical conclusion that the weakest ought to be left to die. The stronger are better.

Cont...



Darwin visited Australia, encountered Aboriginals, and called them 'savages'. In Darwin's mind, the "advance of civilization was a triumphant progress, morally justified and probably inevitable." White pastoralists would use Darwin's theories to argue for the extermination of indigenous people.[2]

Darwin was raised, and early in life confessed to being a Christian. His wife was a lifelong Christian. Darwin's move away from God towards science was a move from light towards darkness. Why does our culture esteem him?

Cope maintained an interest in science, an open mind, and belief in a God who created human beings in his image. We are all special and equal in God's eyes. To be compassionate is to reflect God. I find Cope a more compelling person to esteem.

[1] Darwin, as cited by Holland, Dominion, 426.

[2] Tony Barta (2005) Mr Darwin's shooters: on natural selection and the naturalizing of genocide, Patterns of Prejudice, 39:2, 116-137, DOI: 10.1080/00313220500106170

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

Due to a recent communication from the Diocese we need to re-elect 3 Nominators. Therefore, we are holding a Special General Meeting Sunday the 18th April, at 11:40am in the Auditorium at the Ministry Centre. This will take place after the 10am service, and all DAC members are invited to participate.



WELCOMING THE RIETVELDS

It's almost been a year since David's Commencement of Ministry Service. However due to COVID-19 we were unable to gather, celebrate or give them an official welcome. With lifting restrictions we think it's time to give them a Welcome to DAC Celebration!

Join us on Sunday the 18th of April, after the 10am service (*and Special General Meeting*), for a light lunch to help welcome and celebrate.



Scan this QR code to let us know your coming, or call the church office on 4261 1001.



2PM SERVICE

Our first 2pm service, since early 2020, was held this Wednesday, the 7th of April. This first service was lead by Ray McPhail, and Rev Rick Miller spoke the message. It was an encouraging service and those who attended were able to enjoy singing hymns along with the Organ.

The 2pm service is a weekly service, run at St Luke's Brownsville. The next service is Wednesday 14th April.



CONNECT MEN

Take 2! The March Connect Men get together was washed out, so we're trying again.

Saturday 17th of April Connect Men are meeting at Little Park in Shellharbour Village from 3pm. Bring your own snacks or buy fish and chips when you get there.

Connect Men seeks to meet monthly to provide men an opportunity to hang out and connect. If you would like to know more about Connect Men, or want to join their email list, chat to Warren Southwell or email the office and we'll put you in contact with him.



COMING UP

- Saturday 17th Apr Connect Men
- Sunday 18th Apr Special General Meeting
- Sunday 18th Apr Welcome Rietveld's Lunch
- Friday 23rd Apr Connect Kids and Youth Term 2 Launch

PRAYER FOR TODAY

Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us both a sacrifice for sin and also an example of godly life; give us grace that we may always thankfully receive the immeasurable benefit of his sacrifice, and also daily endeavour to follow in the blessed steps of his most holy life; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for evermore. Amen.

PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

PREGNANT WOMEN:

Amy South (10am)

HOSPITAL

Joan T (10am) - recovering following carotid artery surgery; Robyn K (2pm) - Bulli Hospital; Elizabeth L (10am) - praying for good results so that she can come home soon; Graham S (10am) - Rehab

VILLAGES/NURSING HOMES:

Helen S; Diana M; Kath H; Ella H; Jean D; Barbara B; Barbara L; Reg B;

8AM/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 from scan.

10AM

Keith L - had a fall, has some injuries; Sharron H - health problems; Ronnie VK - was in hospital with an infection, home recovering; Nelson S - surgery cancelled, rescheduled for 29th April; Sue B - treatment starting on 12th April; Ruth D - continue to pray for good results; Jeanette and Paul B - both recovering; Hilary B, Sharon S, Phillippa S, Michael E, Michele S - all ongoing conditions and treatments.

7PM

Jim B - recovering well; Shaina J's son, Roman - waiting for more tests; Gary M - ongoing health problems; Calvin A's mother - Cancer.

CAFE CHURCH/CREATIVE CONNECTION

Blake M (Janelle's 8 year old grandson) - having 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

