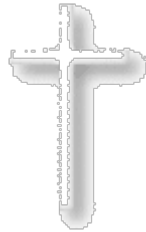


The Anglican Parish of Quamby

St Andrew's Westbury, St Mary's Hagley, St Andrew's Carrick



Quamby Parish Profile



October 2021

Are you our new Rector?

Part 1 – The Position, page 2

Part 2 – The History, page 8

Jesus said: "Go, make disciples"

Part 1 - A vision for the future of the Parish of Quamby

To know Christ and to make him known. Three Churches united as one Parish.

WANTED – A PARISH PRIEST TO LEAD AND SHEPHERD US IN FAITH AS WE LOOK TOWARDS THE FUTURE

The Parish hopes, with the help and guidance of the Holy Spirit, to regain its place as a robust focus of the Anglican faith in the heart of Tasmania as it has been in the past and hopes to be well into the future. To achieve this the Parish recognises that it needs a Priest who is full of energy and with charismatic personality able to attract the young and older people back to the church.

The Parish of Quamby follows the Lectionary and uses the Hymn Book, Together in Song, and A Prayer Book for Australia. We rejoice in our Anglican Sacramental and liturgical heritage as an expression of the gospel.

We look forward to a future with a Priest who follows in this role but we also encourage other service types – Youth services, Messy Church, Café Church etc. The Parish has two Liturgical Assistants.

If you are this person, read on to find out more!

These are the qualities we would like to see in our new Priest:

- Our Priest will be a highly motivated leader who has effective people and communication skills with all ages, a person who is empathetic, approachable, and inclusive of all.
- A spiritual guide with a pastoral heart and the ability to lead a new vision to create disciples.
- We welcome a Priest who will work with the Parish Council, listening and forming opinions based on fact and an understanding of the needs of the Parish.
- A Priest with commitment to lead outreach to children, families and young people and able to develop a rapport with rural and farming families; who understands the seasonal call that farmers have and who can respond to issues within the community as they arise.

- A person who can constructively manage the process of change in the Parish, encouraging everyone along on the same journey; with sound administrative understanding of change management, helping people to engage and adapt.
- Our Priest will value ongoing training and support and mix well with other Christians in the community.

Growing a Christian community for all

- We run regular weekly Holy Communion or Morning Prayer services in alternating centres, using the Lectionary as our daily guide.
- Regular Baptisms and weddings take place, mainly at St Mary's.
- The three cemeteries are all still in use for the funerals that are a part of life.
- Parish Council currently consists of three Wardens and six Parish Councillors including the Treasurer and the Secretary. We generally meet monthly after a Sunday service.
- Our church community is reaching out and reflecting the values of the Kingdom of God that all should be invited to participate with us in this Christian community. We are a Parish enabling those values of the Kingdom of God to be fulfilled within the greater community. We would like a Priest who is confident they can build the Parish from its small base, encouraging everyone along the way.
- We use our talents in many ways, both in Church and in the community. We have people who are excellent at flower arrangement, those who excel in technology to create interesting online services when needed and those who create an interesting pew sheet each week along with associated paperwork. Our Wardens and Parish Councillors all have individual talents, such as cooking, gardening, research and knowledge which are shared regularly within the Parish and the wider community.
- We promote individual growth in Faith through small Bible Study groups, (currently in recess due to Covid 19).
- We welcome visitors and school children alike to our Churches, either to services or just to look and admire.

Factors which hinder growth

While there is a regular attendance at services, we have been unable to attract many young people, although there is a core group who do attend on a semi-regular basis. The older age of our Parishioners may be a hindrance to some younger people participating in Church life. We now have a young organist who has encouraged her friends to attend with her. We are all hoping that they will bring along a new cohort of younger people to join us in worship.

Local Community Profile



Location – The Parish of Quamby covers the area of the following regional villages in northern Tasmania – Carrick, Hagley, Westbury, Selbourne, Birralee, Frankford, Exton and Rosevale. Each centre had its own Church and the Priest took services regularly in the centres that are now closed – Frankford, Birralee, Selbourne, Exton and Rosevale. Quamby Parish covers an area which stretches from the South Esk River in the east, to Exton in the west, Frankford in the north and Whitemore in the south. We also have a number of Parishioners from the surrounding areas.

The Anglican Parish of Quamby sits within the Meander Valley Municipality which had a population of 19,282 in 2016 and a density of 6 persons per square kilometre over 3330 square kilometres. The Meander Valley area stretches from Prospect Vale, near Launceston, to Cradle Mountain. The average age in 2016 was 45.

- Approximately 62% of people in the municipality claimed to be Christian at the 2016 census,
- 677 of these in Carrick, Hagley and Westbury, being Anglican.
- An average of 25 people attend our regular weekly Sunday services.
- Our Parish Roll has 46 people, down from the 62 on the previous roll.
- More than 20% of the Meander Valley population is over 65.

There are Primary schools in Westbury and Hagley as well as Deloraine. Secondary Schools are in Deloraine, Prospect and Launceston, including the Launceston Church Grammar School.

Features which impact the community

Much of the Parish is close to Launceston, indeed, the Parish centres are, in effect, commuter suburbs of Launceston. This becomes an issue when people who live in the community worship, socialise and exercise in the Launceston area. We need an enthusiastic leader who can encourage those people to spend, at least some, of their time in the local area and at local events.

Most of the land in the Parish is taken up with farming pursuits, with the local Rural Youth organisation running a yearly Agricultural Show called AGFEST. Many of the young people who are in that group went to the Hagley Farm School which is adjacent to St Mary's Church at Hagley. Also, many of the people associated with Rural Youth are semi-regular attenders at services (depending on what work is taking place on the farm).

Students from Hagley Farm School and visiting students are often taken on tours of the Church as one of their educational experiences. Before the Christmas break-up each year, the leavers attend a special children's service at St Mary's, with it being the first time some of them have ever been to Church.

The Parish supports the local Westbury Primary School Chaplain and provides space at the monthly market for their stall at no charge. We advertise their events and support them where we can.

There is a lot of home building happening across the Parish with new families coming into the area. There are many new housing developments in the Carrick and Westbury areas. The land which will be sold by the Parish will, no doubt, be turned into housing blocks as the land is zoned for housing. The Diocese is managing that process. New homes equate to a possible increase in worshippers, with the right encouragement and in a place they can feel that they belong.

The numbers enrolled in Kindergarten at the Westbury Primary School for next year are at a record high and the school is expecting high numbers across all years. A play group has recently started in the Roman Catholic hall with good numbers of attendees.

Current engagement and witness with the community

Individual Parishioners are involved with several groups during the week and are always looking for ways to spread the Gospel to the community. Our parishioners use these occasions to try and lift the profile of our Church and Parish and are always looking for ways to increase the list of believers in our area. Examples of parishioners' involvement are volunteering with Disability Bowls Tasmania & Pearn's Steam World Museum, driving the community car for those in need of transport, involvement with the local Community Health centre with the many programs they run, involvement in the local garden clubs, with Girl Guides, Probus and U3A and with the local Historical Society who often do tours of the historical graves in the cemetery. We also have parishioners who regularly conduct tours of our churches for groups from many places in Tasmania and beyond.

All positions in the Parish of Quamby are volunteer positions. Our parishioners share their skills and talents in flower arranging, catering, film/photography, historical tours, organ music, business management and technology.

The main fundraising event in the Parish is the monthly market, held at the Westbury Hall and grounds. The Church is open at this time and people are encouraged to have a look around and ask questions.

In addition, there are numerous functions throughout the year like the Tasmanian Chamber Orchestra concerts, Blessing of the Pets (see below some visitors to be blessed).



Stalls at the monthly market held at St Andrew's Church and hall in Westbury.

- We join with others from the area to put together Christmas Boxes for Samaritan's Purse.
- Catering at farm sales and the Pearn's Steam World long weekend event every November, Pancake Day at the hall at Westbury, Pot Luck teas and Rotary Club meetings.
- Carols at Carrick yearly event and Carols on the Village Green – a Westbury event (Covid allowing).
- This year we raised money to support an ABM appeal so that one of our Parishioners could take part in the 2021 ABM Larapinta Trek.
- We take part in the World Day of Prayer with other denominations in the area.

Ministry during times of crisis

Parishioners work together to assist in times of community or family crisis or illness. Food, comfort, a kind word, prayers and transport are only some of the ways we show our faith. For some years we have been able to provide support to the family of a young disabled person in the Parish.

Covid 19 has put a lot of pressure on many groups and individuals. As a Parish, we have stayed united in our faith and continued to worship online (where possible) and to keep in touch with each other, encouraging and helping to spread Christ's light, life and love within the community. For some weeks during lock down, an online service was held to share with those who wished to participate.

Parish Finance

Quamby is a Parish with a small population of, mainly, elderly congregations on fixed incomes. We have always been able to raise funds when needed for specific purposes but find that regular giving does not always follow. We now ask that people use online payment methods if they are not able to attend Church in person. We aspire to increase live Giving to be able to continue to meet our obligations. We have been blessed in that for nearly two decades, Rev Jo Pyecroft has taken no salary from the Parish which has allowed the capital to increase.

We are in the process of selling some land in Carrick to contribute to the Diocesan Redress scheme (which funds payments to survivors of sexual abuse). We also have other land at Carrick, surrounding the Church, which the Diocese is going to work with the Parish to develop. Income from these projects is as yet unknown as are the timelines. Our new Priest will be involved in this process as it is possible that it may take some years. Some financial knowledge would be advantageous.

Our Rectory is currently leased and alternative accommodation or a housing allowance will be provided for our new Priest until the Rectory is available. Money is held in various accounts from bequests and fundraising for maintenance for all the buildings in the Parish. We currently have no debt and our financial position is sound. The audited accounts are attached.

The Diocese

The Diocesan vision has making disciples of Jesus (as expressed on the front page of this profile) at the core of everything we do. We highly value training and support for church leaders – this includes each ministry leader in the Diocese having a coach/mentor, being in a cohort with others at the same life/ministry stage, and money and time given from the parish for professional development each year. The current group of clergy/ministry leaders (about 80 in total) meet together twice a year and are highly supportive of each other in gospel partnership. Find out more at anglicantas.org.au

Conditions

- Information about stipends and allowances in the Diocese is found here
- Housing or a housing allowance will be provided.
- Appointment will be subject to fulfilling Safe Church Communities requirements, including a Tasmanian Working with Vulnerable People Card and completion of a satisfactory Safe Ministry Screening Check.

How to apply

Please send applications including a resume, a response to this parish profile, and 2-3 referees' names to personnel@anglicantas.org.au by 20 November 2021.

For further information, please contact Mr James Oakley, Diocesan Registrar, by email at registrar@anglicantas.org.au or by phone on (03) 6220 2019.

Part 2 - Parish Buildings & Church hall History

All buildings in the Parish are Heritage Listed

St Andrew's Church, Hall and Cemetery at Westbury



In the very early days when Tasmania was called Van Diemen's Land all this part of the country was known as Norfolk Plains, principally because the first settlers there had come from Norfolk Island. A detachment of soldiers was sent to protect any daring settlers who might take up land in these wild parts, where native blacks, escaping prisoners and bushrangers could be expected at any time of the year. These soldiers, a lieutenant, sergeant, two corporals and 27 privates cleared enough land on the eastern bank of the Quamby Brook to form a parade ground on what is now the Village Green.



St Andrew's Church and hall, Westbury

Governor Arthur, whose name is particularly remembered by Port Arthur, ordered a township to be laid out in 1828 with 126 miles of street and roads which was to be called Westbury. And there, facing the Village Green he laid the foundation stone of this historic old church in March 1836. The Government used to pay most of the cost of building a church in those days and church-going was compulsory, at least for the soldiers and all the convicts in the community. In 1856 the tower was added and in 1877 the present pipe organ replaced a harmonium. In 1890, the new chancel was completed. The Sunday School Hall was opened on 4 September 1895.

The Clergyman was the Rev. John Bishton, and among his successors were the Rev. F. B. Sharland, who served for 17 years, the Rev. A. E. Hutchinson and the Rev. B. Tudor Craig. The church was designed in the office of the Inspector of Works - possibly by James Blackburn, who was then employed in the office and was responsible for so many of our most beautiful churches.

St. Andrew's was opened for worship in 1842, but not consecrated until March 6th 1851. Prior to 1842, services were held in the Police Station. Parish Registers date from 1837 and the original Baptism and Burial Registers are still being used today. The First Burial was recorded April 5th 1837; the First Baptism March 17th 1839 and the First Marriage June 28th 1839.



Interior of St Andrew's at Westbury

All the lovely carving in the church was made and given to St. Andrew's by Mrs. E. N. Payne, whose family descended from the famous pioneer William Field (he came to Westbury from New South Wales in 1816) who built Westfield, situated a mile past Westbury on the way to Devonport, in 1825. Mrs. Payne studied her art in London and Paris and is well-known all over Tasmania. She designed and carved the pulpit, honour roll, font and the Seven Sisters rood screen. She has an impressive memorial stone in the local Anglican Cemetery.

In recent years, the Church and Hall have been painted externally. We are in the process of obtaining quotes to paint the interior of the Church and do some maintenance repairs that are needed.

The Cemetery sits on a block of land, about 9 acres, on Dexter St at Westbury. It used to be between the Rectory and the Church but the Rectory was sold many years ago and there is no longer a Rectory at Westbury. The Cemetery was consecrated on the same day as the Church. It contains the graves of many famous and important people of their times as well as those of the humble people of the town.

St Andrew's Church and Cemetery at Carrick



The only attempt to provide spiritual instruction for the few inhabitants of Carrick before the arrival in 1843 of Mr. Reibey had been made by Rev. J. Bishton, who was then chaplain at Westbury. Once a month Mr. Bishton held a service in the watch-house. After consultation with Bishop Nixon and Archdeacon Davies, Mr. Reibey abandoned his father's plan to form a parish at Entally and decided to form a parish at Carrick. His first project was to open a school in a cottage which he rented. For some years without any aid from the Government he carried on this school and paid the teacher.



Interior of St Andrew's, Carrick, looking towards the organ loft and showcasing quilts made by talented parishioners.

Mr. Reibey was too young to be ordained, but Bishop Nixon gave him a licence to hold a service on Sundays. The attendance at the first services held in a blacksmith's shop were so encouraging, farmers and their families from the Oaks, Sillwood, Illawarra and Entally attending, that he decided to build a church. He set apart seven acres of land, the site on which St. Andrew's Church stands, but during 1844 and 1845 general insolvency prevailed in the colony and he was unable to do more than rent a brick schoolhouse in which school was held during the week and two services on Sunday.

In 1846 the founder altered the school building into the present church. St. Andrew's, Carrick, was officially opened by Archdeacon Marriott and later consecrated by Bishop Nixon. The building, including furniture, cost £1500.

The Church is in need of some internal repairs for which quotes are currently being sourced and it is hoped these will be completed before Christmas. The building, however, is still being used regularly.



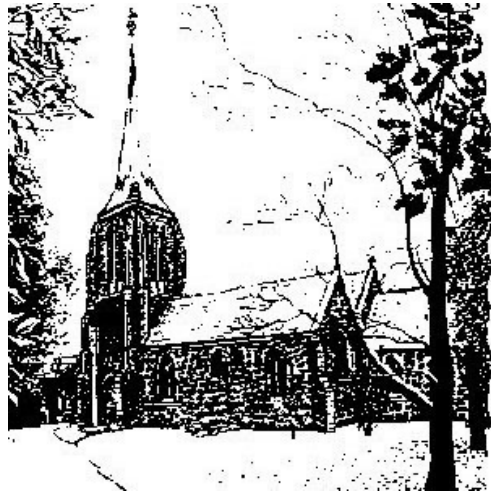
Exterior and interior pictures of St Andrew's Church at Carrick, showcasing some beautiful quilts crafted by talented parishioners.



Carols at Carrick with the choir, musicians and nativity scene.

The Cemetery sits to the north of the Church on the land that slopes down to the Liffey Rivulet.

St Mary's Church, (The Church of St Mary the Virgin) Rectory and Cemetery at Hagley



The first Anglican Church in Hagley, St. Paul's, (opened in 1848) was situated on land donated by Mr. Richard Dry Jnr. and the Lyttleton family of "Hagley House" opposite the Hagley Hotel. Together with 3 small cottages it was one of only 5 buildings in the village. When St. Mary's was built St. Paul's was sold to the Presbyterian Church who later built a larger church which today is a private residence.

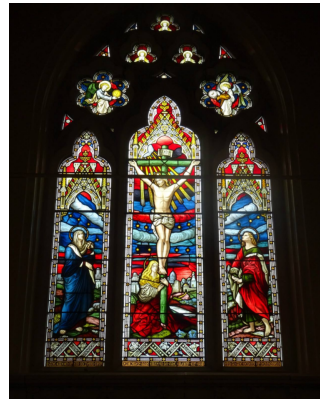
Rich in tradition, beautiful in architectural design and, built mainly of bluestone quarried nearby, St. Mary's Church at Hagley is a lasting memorial to its founder Sir Richard Dry, country squire, statesman, public benefactor and sportsman. He visualised its setting and donated 13 acres of land to be used for the church, rectory, cemetery, and a paddock for the Rector's horse. The Rectory with its high gables and central turret was built prior to the commencement of the church. The church was built in 1862 and financed mainly by Sir Richard, son of Richard Dry Senior, an Irish political exile. The tower, spire, and vestry were added in 1932.



Pictured are Lady Dry (nee Meredith) and Sir Richard Dry. These portraits hang in St Mary's Church.

The foundation stone was laid by Sir Richard in December 1861. At first only the nave and south aisle were built, but when he died in Hobart on 1 August 1869, his body was interred in a "hastily constructed brick crypt in the shadow of his beloved church", after a journey of 4 days from Hobart.

The church, being incomplete, had not been consecrated, but with the additions completed, the ceremony took place in November 1871. Sir Richard now rests beneath the altar in the sanctuary. The Cemetery is now the resting place of over 500 people. People from all walks of life, ex-convicts, landlords, farm hands, tradesmen, women and children, people over a hundred years old, and very young children - many of whom died of the dreaded infectious diseases so prevalent in the early days. It can truly be said that they rest in peace.



Interior of St Mary's, Hagley, showing a closer picture of the east window.

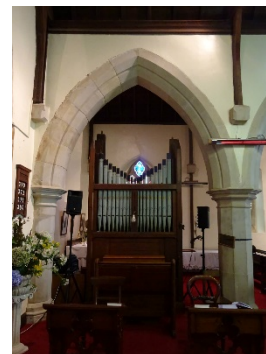
Sir Richard Dry, was the first Australian to be knighted by Queen Victoria, and among many public positions he held during his short lifetime, was the first Tasmanian born Premier of the State. Such had been the nature of his benefactions that the Parliament of the day directed that a public memorial should be erected to him and it was finally agreed that this memorial should take the form of a chancel and sanctuary to the church he had founded and in which he had worshipped for such a short time.

After he died his widow, Lady Dry, formerly Miss Clara Meredith, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Meredith of Swansea, was left to carry out the terms of his very short, handwritten will, made only five days before he died. There are over 40 Memorials in the church dedicated to past parishioners and their families ... from a simple hymn board to the magnificent stained glass window over the Altar, presented by Lady Dry in memory of her husband. Many of the furnishings were also given by Lady Dry, and probably the most important is the lovely Pipe Organ, built by J. W. Walker in London in 1861.

St Mary's was repainted a few years ago and funds were raised about a decade ago to do some roof repairs. Some of those funds are still available for any work required.



Interior scenes of St Mary's, Hagley.



Another of Lady Dry's gifts to the Church was that of two paintings, pictured below, which were collected whilst in Italy on their honeymoon. These were presented to the Church on 22 May 1875. One a copy of Raphael's celebrated picture of the 'Transfiguration' the other of Guido's equally celebrated 'The Communication.' They are both by the only copyist, who, on account of his rare talent, has been admitted to the Academy of St. Luke.



Good Friday at St Mary's Church, Hagley



The St Mary's Rectory, pictured, is a two-storey brick building with Gothic Revival elements including what was originally a central crenelated turret tower over the entrance, now altered to have a gable roofline. It has a steeply pitched gabled roof of corrugated iron sheets, with decorative bargeboards and grouped off-set chimneys. The rear section of the building has a rendered exterior on two sides. There are two-pane casement windows with transom lights, and lancet windows in the main gable ends. There is a simple, timber one-storey verandah at the front. A water pump remains from an old well in the yard. Regular maintenance is carried out as required.

The Cemetery is situated on the eastern side of the Church and is the last resting place for many local people.