



# CONTACT



Charlestown & Garden Suburb Uniting  
Church Multi-Centre Congregation

**19 July 2026**

## **From Rev Tom**

So, a number of major things are happening. I will start with the exciting news that we sent off the application just today to access the return on investment from the proceeds of the property sale so that we can create two full-time positions in 2027, initiating a new mission from Charlestown.

The Hunter Presbytery Standing Committee will be assessing the application today (Wednesday) to determine whether they will lend their support. One of these positions will be a lay person who will develop the Milson St Hub concept. That is, they will work to create a greater sense of community among all the people who associate, to varying degrees, with our church facility.

We also intend to engage a full-time ministry agent who will, on the one hand, connect with the Milson St Hub community and, on the other, focus on developing a new spiritual community - a new church community - which will become the future Charlestown & Garden Suburb Congregation (or whatever they may come to call themselves in the future). This role will be funded equally through income from our investments and by the existing congregation.

In case the question comes to mind, that ministry agent will also have ministry responsibilities in relation to the existing congregation.

So, it's beginning! I'm not sure how quickly the Presbytery will get back to us, but we may have some indication of the first stage of the application's journey soon.

It is an appropriate time to say thank you to everyone who has contributed to the application. It has been a lengthy process: developing a vision, testing that vision with the congregation, and then shaping it into something that could be submitted as an application. Then there has been the financial side, involving some challenging number-crunching well beyond my fiscal capacities! So, thank you to everyone who has been part of this process.

We are on our way. Who knows what the future will bring? The joy is that it is always with God.

Other news is that on 27 July I will be heading to a conference at Kincumber as part of my continuing education. I will then be back for the weekend to lead worship before changing gear as I begin four weeks of long service leave on 3 August.

It promises to be an interesting time, as by then our daughter Neralie, her husband Mitch, and their daughter Vera will have moved in with Kathy and me while their own home is being renovated. Kathy and I will disappear for a while to give them some space, but, as grandparents do, we'll be regularly returning for grandparent responsibilities - or should I say, grandparent delights!

Kathy and I will also be very glad to head out to Parkes and spend some time with Mum as she continues on her road to recovery.

So, there is plenty happening over the next little while!

# DIARY

## **Thursday 16 July**

10.00am Morning tea in the Community – common seated area at Charlestown Square  
**No Bible Study during School Holidays**

## **Saturday 18 July**

10.00am **Walking the Way: Discerning Spirit, Telling Truth, Seeking Solidarity** at  
Toronto Uniting Church (see more details further in Contact)

## **Sunday 19 July – Pentecost 8**

9.00am The Divine Worship  
Leader: David Chegwiddden and Preacher: Rev. Chris Shepherd  
*Genesis 28:10-19a, Isaiah 44:6-8; Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24, Psalm 86:11-17; Romans 8:12-25; Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43*

From: **SANCTUARY** – Singing Workshop + Twilight Service at Adamstown Uniting  
**4.00pm** Church. (More information further in Contact)

## **Tuesday 21 July**

10.00am Morning tea in the Community at Lake Macquarie Square

## **Wednesday 22 July**

**OFFICE IS CLOSED**

## **Thursday 23 July**

10.00am Morning tea in the Community – common seated area at Charlestown Square  
1.30-2.30pm Bible Study in the Dudley Room at Milson St Hub

## **Sunday 26 July – Pentecost 9**

9.00am The Divine Worship  
Leader: Beryl and Preacher: Rev. Tom  
*Genesis 29:15-28, 1 Kings 3:5-12; Psalm 105:1-11, 45b, Psalm 128, Psalm 119:129-136; Romans 8:26-39; Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52*

## **Tuesday 28 July**

10.00am Morning tea in the Community at Lake Macquarie Square  
12.00pm **Garden Suburb Ladies Fellowship at Wests Cardiff**

## **Thursday 30 July**

10.00am Morning tea in the Community – common seated area at Charlestown Square  
1.30-2.30pm Bible Study in the Dudley Room at Milson St Hub  
3-4.30pm **Want to Save on Electricity Bills??** At the Milson St Hub – more information further in Contact

## **AUGUST**

### **Sunday 2 August – Pentecost 10**

9.00am The Divine Worship  
Leader and Preacher: Rev. Tom  
*Genesis 32:22-31; Psalm 17:1-7, 15; Romans 9:1-5; Matthew 14:13-21*

### **Monday 3 August**

10.00am Pastoral Care Visit to Garden Suburb Aged Care facility

### **Tuesday 4 August**

10.00am Morning tea in the Community at Lake Macquarie Square  
10.00am Pastoral Care Visit to Garden Suburb Aged Care facility

# THE PRAYER PAGE



## Prayer is the Voice of Faith

### Pastoral Prayer Points

- \* Jean Witherspoon and family
- \* For the Greaves family after the death of Geoff on Monday
- \* Tom's Mum as she recovers from her hip operation
- \* Tom's family as they mourn the death of Tom's mother's sister
- \* Pray for Marion Box
- \* Prayers for Grahame Beeton and family
- \* Those who are mourning loved ones
- \* Mert has moved to Narla Village – continue to pray for Mert and Pam
- \* Jacqueline Fenwick now home
- \* Rene Kelly
- \* Glen and Marion
- \* Valmai
- \* Janice and Don Wright
- \* Kelly
- \* Tony Sellen
- \* Vicki
- \* Pam and Ken
- \* Lyn Benson
- \* Jean
- \* Isabella
- \* Eileen Dunn
- \* Max
- \* Don Humphries

Maintained by SFED

### Congregational Prayer Points

- Preparation of NREMA application being prepared by SFED and Church Council
- Piteeri
- Major upgrades to the Project Reconnect website
- Worship Services
- Cathy Beeton and SRE classes
- Church profile and preparations for Tom's retirement
- Worship Committee

### Wider Community Prayer Points

- Jesmond Park-Wallsend-Shortland
- Margaret Jurd College and Darren Twist the Principal
- Orphanage in Kenya and Wilfreda
- Neos ministry
- Those affected by climate change in Australia eg floods, droughts and fires
- Prayer for those in conflict zones in the world



# WANT TO SAVE ON ELECTRICITY BILLS?



This Inspiring Australian Initiative is supported by the Australian Government

- Kids, come & ride our bike that generates enough electricity to turn lights on!
- Switch from Gas to Electric and save \$2400-\$4000 p.a.
- Learn a bit about rebates, batteries & solar

**THURS. 30/7**  
**3-4:30PM**

**ALEC ROBERTS**  
Chairman of Cleans

**24 Milson St.**  
**Charlestown**

Bring the kids!  
Afternoon Tea provided



The Greater  
Charlestown  
Sustainable  
Neighbourhood  
Group



**Milson  
Street  
Hub**



Text Piteeri to  
book your spot:  
**0493 094 231**



## Building Work at Charlestown

The building work at Charlestown is about to start - it includes replacing the three kitchen windows, Kahibah Room and Old Vestry windows and Kahibah Room doors, fascia and gutter over the kitchen windows - later work includes replacing the kitchen linoleum and installing a small split air conditioner.

This work will affect the kitchen availability from about **20 July**. We will put crockery/ cutlery and supplies in the Dudley Room for people who usually use the kitchen tea and coffee making facilities.

Non kitchen work will commence 15/16th July and the windows will be delivered on 23/24 July to allow kitchen work to commence. Hopefully this phase will take no more than two working weeks - weather permitting.

The later work will follow on after a short break and hopefully we can schedule it to take less than one week.

Any questions - ask Paul Russell 0411236047



ADAMSTOWN  
UNITING CHURCH



# SANCTUARY

*an evening of prayer, silence and song  
from the Taizé Community*



**3RD SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH**

BEGINNING 15<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY

**Sunday 19 July**

## **SINGING WORKSHOP + TWILIGHT SERVICE**

**4-5pm: Song workshop - Learning the songs of Taizé**

**5:30pm-6:30pm: Twilight Service**

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**228 BRUNKER RD ADAMSTOWN**

**TEA & COFFEE AVAILABLE BETWEEN WORKSHOP + SERVICE**

**NO NEED TO REGISTER, DONATIONS ALWAYS WELCOME**

### **I have started cleaning up in the office!!!**

I started in the desk drawers – and low and behold I found a mysterious black felt case with a pearl necklace and earrings inside!!! Not sure if they are real, but, I wonder if anyone knows anything about them and especially, how they came to be in the office desk drawer!!!

If you have the answers, please email or phone me in the office on the 29<sup>th</sup> July, as the office is closed next week. You could also speak with Paul Russell.



### **Some of our Church Contacts:**

#### **Minister**

Rev Tom Stuart

M: 0427 625 502 E: [tom@thestuarts.id.au](mailto:tom@thestuarts.id.au)

#### **Children & Families Resource Worker:**

Mrs Cathy Beeton

M: 0409 445 933 E: [Cath4858@gmail.com](mailto:Cath4858@gmail.com)

Mrs Cathy Beeton is also our Safe Church Contact Person

#### **Communications Coordinator:**

Piteeri Michail

M: 0493 094 231 E: [Piteeri.m@outlook.com](mailto:Piteeri.m@outlook.com)

#### **Administration:**

P: 4943 4019 E: [office@charlestown.unitingchurch.org.au](mailto:office@charlestown.unitingchurch.org.au)

24 Milson St, Charlestown NSW 2290

PO Box 449, Charlestown NSW 2290

#### **Bank Account Details for the Charlestown Garden Suburb Multi-Centre Congregation:**

Bank Account held with: Uniting Financial Services

Account Name: Charlestown Congregation General Account

BSB: 634 634 Account No.: 100030837

**For Offering please put Ref: Offering**

#### **Keep up to date with happenings and info:**

Webpage: <http://www.chagsuca.org.au>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/CharlestownUnitingChurch>

Project Reconnect: <http://www.projectreconnect.com.au>

Worship Services: <https://tinyurl.com/CHaGS-YouTube-Link>