



WEEKLY NEWS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF
DAPTO ANGLICAN CHURCH

NURSE LUCY LETBY

REV. DAVID RIETVELD

The recent case of the nurse who took rather than saved lives has gripped many. It's a disturbing tale on so many fronts. A nurse who does the exact opposite of what she should, who betrays the trust we place in her, and takes the lives of innocent children.

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We watch on with morbid fascination. Real crime is clickbait and a ratings winner. Some theorise that we desire to understand the 'who', 'what' and 'when' of the criminal mind so we can better protect ourselves and our loved ones. Apparently, women are more drawn to true crime than men – and this strange fact seems to support this theory.

Others suggest that these stories help to clarify and reinforce our moral presuppositions. We take comfort when evil is called out, justice is carried, and we feel lucky to have avoided an unfortunate misfortune.

Still, others suggest there is a dark side (to some) of us that voyeuristically imagines how it might feel to commit such unnatural atrocities. Given other circumstances, could I do that?

Finally, others might play couch detective and imagine if we could have caught the offender earlier and saved a life or two in the process.

I also suspect another dynamic is at play. We imagine Lucy Letby and her peers to be thoroughly evil. There is nothing redeemable – no graciousness, no mercy, no compassion in her heart. By comparison, we conclude we are basically good – we wouldn't hurt a fly, let alone a defenceless baby full of potential and hope.

These binary categories are appealing but, in the end, unsustainable. In my weakest moment, I am greedy, self-absorbed, easily offended, and even menacing. I am not alone. The fact that there are others worse than me does not make me incapable of evil.

We all desire to live in a world free of evil. A world not just free of Lucy Letby's – but a world free of people like me at my worst.

A free society is necessarily on the assumption people are some combination of good and bad, and we require encouragement to do good and restraining when we do otherwise.



Saturday 2nd September

Starting at 5pm

For the Whole Family

\$15 per person - Dinner Included

Under 12's Free Entry

Book a Table of 10
Or book a seat and we'll
find you a table



Connect Men at Kiama Blowhole

Gather with us on the 26th of August at the iconic Kiama Blowhole for a time of connection, camaraderie, and growth. Whether you're a regular attendee or new to the group, you're warmly invited to join in.

Feel free to bring your packed lunch or grab a bite to eat in Kiama before we convene at the Blowhole. For those taking the train, there's a convenient option: catch the 11:15am train from Dapto, arriving at Kiama at 11:47am. This gives you ample time to enjoy a meal before strolling up to the blowhole. If you prefer to drive, meet us there.

For more information, please contact Warren.



Greece and Turkey Tour

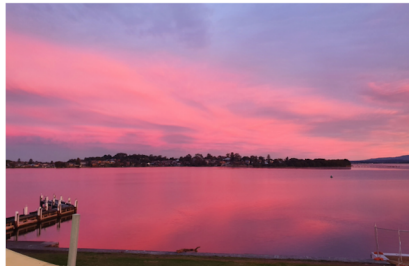
In just a little under two weeks, David Rietveld will be leading a group 'in the footsteps of Paul'. They will be travelling around in Greece and Turkey. Please join us in praying for safe travels, for protection from illness and that each person may continue to grow in their love of God.



Empty Nesters by the Lake

Join us for a leisurely stroll along the Illawarra Yacht Club Walk, where you can take in the stunning views and enjoy the fresh air. This event is specifically designed for Empty Nesters, so come along and meet like-minded individuals while getting some exercise and fresh air.

The walk will take place on Saturday, September 9th, starting at 2:30 pm, followed by some afternoon tea inside the club from 3:30pm. Afterwards, why not stay for dinner and continue the conversation with new friends? To RSVP and secure your spot, please contact Ruth Finney at 0409 746 255. We look forward to seeing you there!



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



~~UNFAITHFUL~~
~~PEOPLE~~ GOD

27 AUG - 10TH SEPT



Prayer and Praise Night

Save the date! We are having a Prayer and Praise Night here at the Ministry Centre on Thursday, the 12th of October, from 7:30pm.



PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

A prayer for the beginning of each day.

For morning light and the gift of a new day, we praise you, Heavenly Father; and with thankful hearts we now entrust ourselves and those we love into your hands, praying that you will help us, guide us and keep us in all that lies before us this day, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

MOURNING

Pray for Paul and Jeanette B (10am) following the death of Paul's father. The funeral was held 23rd of August.

EXPECTANT PARENTS

Tara and Nathan O.

VILLAGES/NURSING HOMES

Please continue to pray for our people in Residential Care Homes: Jean W, Kath H, Phyllis D, Audrey & Alan R, Gae & Allen Q, Elsie N, Barbara L, Pamela B, Betty B, Gordon M, Beth W (Piper House, Dapto); Robyn K (Digger's Rest, Corrimal); Helen S (Marco Polo, Unanderra); Ella H, Trevor W (Warrigal Care, A.P.); Wendye C (Farmborough Uniting, Unanderra); Cheryl T (Hammond Care, Horsley); Graham S (The Links, Wollongong); Brian B (William Beach Gardens, Dapto).

8AM / WED 2PM

Please continue to pray for Deb P's son, and her brother.

10AM

Pray for Elizabeth L following surgery on her foot; Continue to pray for Phillip P that his health will improve; Also pray for Andrew W as he continues with his treatment. Also pray for Janice S as she is struggling with her health.

6PM

Please continue to pray that Jael's health will stabilise.

CAFE CHURCH/CREATIVE CONNECTION

Please continue to pray for Lynne N that her health will continue to improve, and continue to pray for Lynne's brother, Stephen as his Targeted Chemo is going well. Please keep praying for positive results.