

From Andy and Liz ...

Welcome to 2017 at Barney's! We hope you had a restful break over the summer and were able to spend some good time abiding with God and spending time with loved ones. Some of us had a lot of fun gathering together in various locations during January (see page 2). This was a great way to stay connected whilst giving everyone a well earned break!

At the start of this year, God has been speaking to both of us (Andy and Liz) in different ways about the importance of having really good, strong roots with him. As we head

into another year and start to feel the busy-ness of life again after some time off, it can feel daunting to say the least! But when we have a strong relationship with God, when we are regularly spending time with him, we find that he replenishes our reserves, renews our hope and restores our vision.

We have also felt reminded of the importance of knowing Jesus. Not just knowing *about* him, but knowing him, personally. It is truly amazing that the God we worship, who created the whole universe, is a person who we can know and with

whom we can have a relationship. As we head into this new year of what we are sure will be great fruitfulness at Barney's, let's encourage one another to keep growing deep roots in God, and pursuing a deeper relationship with Jesus. That is the surest way to realise our vision of being God's Missionary People - seeing lives transformed. Thank you for joining us in seeking to see that vision realised. It's going to be a great year!

Shalom

Praying for the Connections Missional Community



At Barney's Youth, we want to create a safe space for teenagers to have fun, talk about life and ask questions about who God is and who God has made them to be. Community and connection are important to us, so we've been staying connected through the summer holidays. A number of our young people have come along to the Barney's Sunday gatherings, as well as games and movie afternoons throughout January.

God has been catching my (Emily) attention with identity; who we are, whose we are, and how that influences how we interact with others. Being a teenager is all about asking these kinds of questions, so at Barney's Youth this year we will be exploring our relationship with God, our relationship with ourselves, and our relationship with others. Our dream and prayer is that the young people of our area will experience the fullness of a life lived with Jesus and the freedom that comes from God's love.

If connecting with young people and helping them discover who they are and whose they are is something you're interested in, please grab Emily or Gabi to find out more.

Some things to pray for over the coming month:

- ~ That the year of youth group will start well, and we'll be able to reconnect with some of the young people we haven't seen in awhile.
- ~ For the deepening of connection with Brooks High School.
- ~ That God will continue to grow, in the leaders and young people, a culture of a loving and supportive community.

Contact details

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Church database

If you have not yet provided your contact details for our church database, you can connect with us at www.tasbarneys.org/join-members-area

Summer Fun at Barney's :)

As you probably know, our gatherings were a bit different over the summer. We had some great relaxed times at the Rhododendron Gardens, the Heritage Forest and the Gorge and a fantastic time camping last weekend at Myrtle Park. These were all great opportunities to spend some more informal time together, getting to know one another and enjoying God's creation together. Here are a few photos of what we got up to...



Bishop Richard's Vision Consultation

In June 2017, Bishop Richard plans to launch a new vision for the Diocese of Tasmania. He is keen that this is a shared vision, and so is holding a number of consultations around the state where people will have the opportunity to input into that vision. You are invited to be a part of the conversation on **Saturday 18th March** at St John's Church, Launceston. The day will go from 10am-4pm. The event is free but you are asked to register here: <http://tix.yt/northern-vision-consultation>.

Please do make the most of this opportunity to shape the future of our diocese if you can!

Sunday morning gatherings - your chance to help!

It's a new year, and what better time than to start helping out at Barney's to make our Sunday gatherings a wonderful welcoming place to be! At the start of the year, we have spaces available particularly on our Morning Tea roster. Other ways you can help out is with the projector, making coffee or helping with Kids Praise Club (subject to training and checks etc)

Please speak to Liz (or email on liz@tasbarneys.org) if you would like to get involved :)

Christmas Blessings

On 11th December the pastoral care team visited a number of houses around Barney's, delivering Christmas treats to bless our community. Many people were surprised but also happy to receive a little gift of Christmas goodies. It opened up some conversations with people and let them know that we are here! All the teams that went out had a positive experience interacting with people :)



Barney's Prayer Network

Just a reminder that the Barney's Prayer network is now up and running via text message. If you would appreciate prayer for something, please send a text message to the number below. If the prayer is for someone else, please ensure you have their permission before texting. A message will then be sent out to all those people who have joined the network. To be part of the network, text JOIN to the number, and to opt out, text STOP.



PRAYER NETWORK: 0481 072663