

SOUTHERN RANGES PARISH PROFILE

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Where we are:

Southern Ranges Parish sits within the Diocese of Bunbury, Western Australia and is situated in the Great Southern Region of WA. The Stirling Range and Porongurup Range are natural features within the area and provide an important point of reference, hence the name Southern Ranges Parish. The climate is mild throughout the seasons allowing for some hot Summer and coldish Winter days with very pleasant and enjoyable Autumn and Spring months.

The Parish covers the adjoining **Shires of Plantagenet and Cranbrook** and in addition to the five neighbouring Shires shown in the map, the Shires of Manjimup and Boyup Brook are also our neighbours to the west.

Cranbrook is situated 325 kms south east of Perth and **Mt Barker** is a further 50kms south on Albany H'way – 50kms from the coastal city of Albany.

Who we are and our hopes for the future:

- Our Parish is well supported by traditional and committed Anglicans however, the average age of our parishioners is rising which means our numbers are slowly diminishing.
- We have had a series of locums or part time Priests in recent years, however, our Parishioners have remained committed to the future of the Parish and although we know the challenges, the Parish is steadfast in their decision to return to full time ministry in order to grow and has funds set aside to support the first three years of our renewal.
- Each community has a broad demographic, including families whose younger generations recognise and accept the presence of Church in their parent's and grandparent's lives, but do not see a need in their own lives which presents an opportunity for energetic pastoral presence and outreach.
- The Parish operates an Opportunity Shop in Mt Barker five days per week, managed by one of our Parish Councillors with the assistance of a number of volunteers, not all attending Services, however as an 'outreach' and mission role, it provides an excellent service to the community and a great financial support to the Parish.
- There are great opportunities for additional outreach to young people, parents with young to teenage children, partnerships with other denominations within the Parish for combined activities / events etc. and a commitment that a part-time Priest not able to live locally is unable to provide. We are a committed "Safe Church" Parish.

Where and when we worship:

- All Saints – Mt. Barker 10am – 2nd and 4th Sunday – Holy Communion
- St. Werburgh's – Mt. Barker 11.30am - 4th Sunday at – Holy Communion
- St. Oswald's – Cranbrook 10am – 1st and 3rd Sunday – Holy Communion
- St. Mildred's – Tenterden 10am - 5th Sunday (4 Services each year)

Alternate Sunday's at All Saints and St Oswald's are at 10.00am with Services of Morning Prayer or Prayer, Praise and Proclamation



MT BARKER



- **All Saints Church** - Built in the early 1900's it is a solid brick and stone building.
- **All Saints Rectory** - Built in the 1950's it is a large 4 bedroom 1 bathroom house, kitchen & dining room, lounge with fire, and a Study off the entry hallway. The Rectory is currently on a month by month tenancy.
- **All Saints Hall** - The original Rectory – timber, tin and plaster with a new disabled toilet adjacent. The Parish are currently looking at options to replace the Hall.

- **St. Werburgh's Chapel** – This Stone, timber and plaster building was built in 1873 by George Edward Egerton-Warburton. Substantial restoration and repairs through a Heritage Grant and other funding completed in 2018/19 with further work to be done when funds are raised.



CRANBROOK and TENTERDEN



- **St. Oswald's Church** - A Stone building with an iron roof celebrated it's Centenary in 2018 - an extension of the church and addition of a Vestry was completed in 1978/79.
- **St. Oswald's Rectory** - A brick 3 bedroom 1 bathroom house – the cement tile roof was replaced with a Zinalume roof in April 2019. The Rectory is currently rented.

- **St. Mildred's Church** - Tenterden, will celebrate it's Centenary in 2026. It is a 'Tudor style' stone, timber, fibro and plaster building with a three panel Gowers and Brown stained glass window.



Accommodation

- The Mt Barker Rectory is a sound and roomy building but in need of some modernisation.
- There is also the matter of the condition of the current Parish Hall and the opportunity to repurpose the current Rectory as a Church Centre at minimum expense, providing a Parish Office, general purpose amenity and storage space, a social and meeting area as well as offering office and facilities to allied groups such as Anglicare / Counselling / etc.
- There is the option, and room on the Church block, to build a new Rectory in a position which provides privacy to a family.
- Such decisions will be left until we have a new Priest who with their family may
 - Prefer to live in the current Rectory
 - Prefer a more modern residence – either purchased, built or leased

And this is our wider community where we live, work and play;

The following provides a snapshot of the community we live in as far as locality, population, education, health services and recreation are concerned.

The **Shire of Plantagenet** is 360km south of Perth and 50kms north of Albany. The Shire was established as a Road Board in 1871 and covers an area of 4,792 kms² (1,850 mls²) and includes the communities of Mt Barker, Narrikup, Rocky Gully, Kendenup and Porongurup. The total population in 2018 was estimated at 5,250.

The **Shire of Cranbrook** is 320kms South-east of Perth and 90kms north of Albany. The Shire was part of the Plantagenet Road Board until 1926 when it became an autonomous Road Board and covers an area of 3,277 kms² (1,265 mls²) and includes the communities of Cranbrook, Frankland River and Tenterden. The total population in 2018 was estimated at 1,100.

The **agricultural industries** in both Shires are principally sheep (wool and meat), cropping (Cereal grains, Canola and wheat), beef cattle, free range piggeries, chickens for meat and eggs, wine, horticulture, olives and timber plantations. The diversity of industries has resulted in ancillary businesses being established in the Region – agri-businesses, transport, shed construction, building, food, wine, veterinary and general retail to name a few.

Education K to Yr 12 is provided at Mt Barker Community College with Primary Schools at Cranbrook, Frankland River and Kendenup. There are also Kindergarten, Pre-Primary and Play group facilities. There is also daily transport to schools in Albany – Great Southern Grammar, St. Joseph's and the Southern Regional College of Tertiary Education.

Mt Barker and Cranbrook have new and varied **Sporting facilities** for football, hockey, cricket, golf, tennis, lawn bowls and other sporting venues are situated in Frankland River, Kendenup, Tenterden and Narrikup.

Community based enterprises include the

- Mt Barker Community Resource Centre,
- Frankland River Community Resource Centre,
- Gillamii Centre and Regional Community Hub (Cranbrook)

These facilities house Shire Libraries as well as Daycare Centres and Seniors' support.

Independent Living Units for Seniors are established in Mt Barker and Cranbrook. Further aged facilities are based at the Plantagenet Hospital – Overton Lodge for aged requiring medium care, Banksia Lodge for frail aged requiring higher care and Langton Lodge for dementia patients. Home and personal care is available for Seniors and those requiring disability services through Federal Government funded care plans for individuals. Further support throughout each Shire includes weekly or monthly lunches provided by community based organisations.

A Hospital and Medical Centre is situated in Mt Barker with Drs visiting Cranbrook and Frankland River on a regular basis. Ambulance and First Responder services are based in Mt Barker, Cranbrook, Frankland River and Kendenup and specialist consultation and treatment is available in Albany at the Albany Regional Hospital and other Medical Centres for visiting Specialists.

Local **tourist attractions** include the Stirling Range and Porongurup Range National Parks, various Lakes and River systems, Wineries, Cafes, Art Centres and Museums with recreational fishing easily accessible along the South Coast. Various accommodation venues and Caravan Parks throughout both Shires cater for visitors and numbers are increasing considerably providing further business opportunities for residents.