

## Tri-Diocesan Covenant Fulfilling its Role

The enjoyment and good fellowship exhibited in this photo of a light luncheon at St Peter's Anglican Hall, Swansea on 26<sup>th</sup> February demonstrates one of the commitments of the tri-diocesan Covenant signed by Catholics and Anglicans almost three years ago. One commitment was to a twice-yearly meeting of the Ecumenical Commissions and their Bishops from the Catholic Dioceses of Broken Bay and Maitland-Newcastle and the Anglican Diocese of Newcastle.



The luncheon, prepared by the St Peter's Ladies Guild, concluded a full morning meeting with bishops, Bishops Michael Malone, Brian Farran and Peter Stuart. There was an apology from Bishop David Walker. The agenda covered many issues relating to current and future planning and included:- Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Ecumenical Service at St John's Anglican Church Cooks Hill on June 16<sup>th</sup> at 7.00 pm; celebration of the next affirmation of the Covenant at Christ Church Cathedral on 4<sup>th</sup> May at 7.45 pm; Maitland-Newcastle - Newcastle Bishops Conversations at Taree Catholic Church on 23<sup>rd</sup> August at 7.00pm; Joint Clergy Day for clergy of the three dioceses at Toronto on September 7<sup>th</sup>; Reconciliation Service between Anglicans and Catholics at St Andrew's Anglican Church Mayfield on 9<sup>th</sup> November at 7.00pm; property sharing at Taree and Lake Munmorah areas; the holding of joint Cursillo Ultreyas; education in ecumenism; possibility of senior school student conversations at Lakes Grammar and Mary MacKillop High School; discussion re the future of the NSW Ecumenical Council and the possibility of Maitland-Newcastle and Newcastle enjoying a meal together with a distinguished speaker.

Occasions such as this affirm that ecumenical and inter-church activity is alive and well in our diocese as is exhibited in many other facets in parishes throughout the region.

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